

The Defender

1904-2004
A Century of
St. Michael's College

March 3, 2004

St. Michael's College Student Newspaper

Volume XXXI, Issue 15

INSIDE



A & E

Students share poetry at MLK Society event during Black History Month.

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Outdoors

New Freeride Club gives students opportunity to compete in extreme skiing events.

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Calendar

Musical group Suspect combines reggae, funk, rock and blues in its performance at Higher Ground on March 6.

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Sports

Nordic ski team wraps up season as sickness rains on team's potential. Profile of first full-time men's lacrosse coach.

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New club sparks controversy

Gender Club might overlap with Women's Center and ALLY

By Lindsey Shumway
Staff Writer

It took a little convincing before the Student Association granted the new Gender Club membership Feb. 10. Questions arose about its purpose. After all, there is already a Women's Center and ALLY. But, after some debate, the S.A. finally voted unanimously to give the new club \$500 and a chance to

prove itself.

Senior and Gender Club member Liz Dwyer said there was a bit of controversy with the S.A. because the Gender Club's mission seemed similar to the Women's Center and ALLY.

"A lot of people on the S.A. felt we were splintering support for those two groups," Dwyer said. "We saw ourselves as trying to multiply support and bring awareness to people on campus."

The new club already has about 25 members.

Senior Patricia Connolly, who helped start the club, said she hoped that rather than focusing on the differences between ALLY and the Women's Center, people would see how the Gender Club complements the groups. The Gender Club plans to connect themselves with both

See GENDER CLUB, Page 3

Church and Republican club oppose gay marriage

By Morgen Thibault
Staff Writer

As the November elections near, the people of the United States can rest assured that the controversial debate over same-sex marriage will continue to heat up. States across the country are in an uproar about President Bush's Feb. 24 announcement that he supports an amendment that would ban gay marriage.

It isn't clear yet which states are for or against this ban. It is clear, however, that many people, as well as the Republican Party, are not convinced that such an amendment is necessary.

While most states do not have laws allowing for same-sex marriages, Massachusetts is on the pathway of ruling them legal, and San Francisco has already declared them lawful. Massachusetts will decide on May 17 if same-sex marriages will be ruled legal or not. On the West Coast, San Francisco has seen thousands of gay couples rush to city hall to get their marriage licenses, many hurrying because of the president's strong support for a ban.

While Vermont is the only state that allows for civil unions, there is still a distinct difference between civil unions and marriages.

Marriage is legally defined as "the union and unity between a man and a woman." The definition has been interpreted in many ways, however. Some see it as strictly between a man and woman, while others say it is the unity of two individuals where gender does not matter.

Greg Tobey and Jake Dubuque are chairman and co-vice chairman of the St. Michael's College Republicans, respectively. They said marriage should be protected by law as the union of a man and a woman, and nothing else. This, however, does not apply to civil unions.

Controversy over civil unions and marriages also brings up the debate about equality. Should homosexuals have the same rights as heterosexuals?

"Equality laws should allow gay partnerships to have a protection under the law, but this must be defined as different from marriage," Tobey said, speaking on behalf of the College Republicans. "We feel that

See MARRIAGE, Page 2

Trumbower comes so close on 'Jeopardy!'



Photos by Christine Danyow



Sometimes \$1 really can make all the difference in the world. Religious Studies Chairman Jeffrey Trumbower (left) learned that lesson in the most gut-wrenching way on Feb. 27. Trumbower went into the final round of "Jeopardy!" with \$10,200. He bet everything he had on the final question and even got it right. But that wasn't enough to stop a computer engineer from Tampa, Fla., who beat him \$20,401 to \$20,400. More than 30 friends, students and colleagues filled the Rathskeller to cheer him on.

Financial aid to change next fall

By Raina Jensen
Staff Writer

Incoming first-year students will benefit from a new system of financial aid come next fall.

Traditionally when students permanently left St. Michael's College, their money was given to the incoming freshman class, Vice President of Finance Neal Robinson said. Under the new system, when class members leave, their financial aid money will remain in that class's pool. Robinson said the new system would add a dimension to financial aid that the school has not yet supplied to the students.

"The principle is that so far at St. Michael's we have given a financial aid package the first year and it is fixed," President Marc vanderHeyden said. "Starting next year and in the future we hope to increase the

financial aid for the students who continue at St. Michael's when the tuition increases."

Total tuition and fees this year were \$30,100 with \$15.36 million given out for financial aid. Next year's tuition and fees are expected to be \$31,785, more than a 5 percent increase, with \$16.1 million given out for financial aid.

"We went over our budget for financial aid two years ago by \$1 million," Robinson said. "This new system is how we hope to have better control over our budget."

The college set up a capital campaign five years ago to raise \$52 million in scholarship money by July 1, 2005, Robinson said. The money would then be invested and the interest income from the endowment would be given to financial aid.

The Class of 2007 received a

total of \$4.1 million in financial aid annually, while seniors received a total of \$2.7 million, which shows that when the tuition increases the awards do not increase, Robinson said.

"In the past, the financial aid given was flat for four years while in the meantime tuition was increasing," Robinson said. "Next year the freshman class will receive an expected total of \$4 million for financial aid that is committed to be there the next four years even though the class size will change."

There is no promise that returning students will reap the benefits of the change, however, Robinson said.

The new system will affect incoming classes the most but will not leave current students behind, Robinson said.

See FINANCIAL AID, Page 3

St. Michael's College Security Log

Excerpts from the Feb. 14 - Feb. 26 security reports. Courtesy of the St. Michael's College Office of Security.

Saturday, Feb. 14

2:13 a.m. Escort to Hodson Hall
3:12 a.m. Vandalism at Linnehan Hall
4:47 a.m. Suspicious person at Hodson Hall
7:49 a.m. Vandalism at Cashman Hall
7:59 a.m. Vandalism at Alumni Hall
10:30 a.m. Assault on Campus Road
11:56 p.m. Drunkenness at Ryan Hall

Sunday, Feb. 15

12:01 a.m. Larceny/theft at Cashman Hall
4:52 a.m. Fire alarm at Linnehan Hall
7:35 a.m. Towed vehicle on Campus Road
4:32 p.m. Odor violation at Durick Library

Monday, Feb. 16

12:54 a.m. Escort to Days Inn
1:46 a.m. Escort to Linnehan Hall
3:10 a.m. Security issue at Ryan Hall
11:25 a.m. Towed vehicle at flag pole lot
12:05 p.m. Lockout at Founders Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 17

12:23 a.m. Physical Plant assistance at Hamel Hall
1:49 a.m. Escort to Hamel Hall
3:07 a.m. Noise complaint at Alumni Hall
8:23 a.m. Towed vehicle at Ryan lot
8:40 a.m. Found property at Cheray Science Hall
6:43 p.m. Trespassing at Alliot Hall
9:56 p.m. Suspicious person on campus

Wednesday, Feb. 18

1:02 a.m. Lockout at 400s Townhouses
5:11 a.m. Security issue on Campus Road
5:30 p.m. Lockout at Senior Hall
5:43 p.m. Lockout at Hamel Hall
5:58 p.m. Odor violation at Purtill Hall
10:33 p.m. Larceny/theft at Durick Library

Thursday, Feb. 19

12:50 a.m. Larceny/theft on Vermont 15
1:57 a.m. Escort to Hamel Hall
6:30 a.m. Escort to President's house
7:53 p.m. Physical Plant assistance at Cheray Hall
11:05 p.m. Odor violation at Joyce Hall
11:21 p.m. Escort to Alumni Hall

Friday, Feb. 20

2:07 a.m. Trespassing in the Quad
1:31 p.m. Suspicious person at Jeanmarie Hall
7:19 p.m. Motor vehicle accident on Vermont 15
8:54 p.m. Vandalism at Ryan Hall
9:33 p.m. Vandalism at Ryan Hall

Saturday, Feb. 21

8:30 a.m. Fire alarm at St. Joseph's Hall
2:40 p.m. Alarm at Tarrant Recreation Center
7:32 p.m. Lockout at Alumni Hall
8:18 p.m. Lockout at Founders Hall
10:35 p.m. Motor vehicle assistance on Vermont 15

Sunday, Feb. 22

8:09 a.m. Lockout at Ryan Hall
2:52 p.m. Lockout at Linnehan Hall
3:06 p.m. Lockout at Alumni Hall
3:47 p.m. Lockout at Salmon Hall
7:27 p.m. Lockout at Senior Hall
9:49 p.m. Fire at Ryan Hall

Monday, Feb. 23

1:05 a.m. Fire alarm at Ryan Hall
1:09 a.m. Noise complaint at Founders Hall
1:53 a.m. Drug violation at Ryan Hall
3:55 a.m. Fire alarm at Ryan Hall
4:04 a.m. Vandalism at Ryan Hall
7:13 p.m. Lockout at Cheray Science Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 24

12:53 a.m. Vehicle stop at 200s Townhouses
10:59 a.m. Fire alarm at Alumni Hall
11:42 p.m. Harassment at St. Joseph's Hall

Wednesday, Feb. 25

9:40 a.m. Medical assistance at Alliot Hall
1:42 p.m. Larceny/theft at Ryan Hall
11:11 p.m. Parking complaint at Int'l Commons

Thursday, Feb. 26

2:31 a.m. Medical assistance at Ryan Hall
6:10 p.m. Lockout at Lyons Hall
6:11 p.m. Theft of property at Alumni Hall

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MARRIAGE: Groups discuss difference between civil unions and marriage

Continued from Page 1

marriage is not a civil right, it is a privilege that has been an integral part of society since the beginning of history, a privilege of history that should not be changed."

ALLY Chairman and junior Michael McCaffrey did not agree with the College Republicans or the definition of marriage.

"Marriage should be a union between any two individuals regardless of gender, orientation, ethnicity or religion," McCaffrey said. "If you are in love you should be allowed to marry. We accept interracial marriages but cannot seem to accept a marriage between individuals of the same sex, a concept I do not understand."

It really should be about equality, McCaffrey said.

Tobey sees otherwise.

"America is defined by our tradition of individual equality," he said. "Equality laws by precedent do not apply to group unions."

Sophomore Elizabeth Steele said equality does apply to same-sex marriage, but it also goes above and beyond, too.

"Everyone should have the same rights. We're all people," Steele said. "White, black, man or woman, we all should be equal, or we will be fighting over things history has already shown us."

Steele said the anti-slavery and women's movements alone have taught us equality is the right answer.

"I don't care if two gay people get married," Steele said. "It doesn't bother me in any way."

As far as religion is concerned, it is not unjust to deny legal status to same-sex unions because marriage and same-sex unions are essentially different concepts, according to the March

4 Catholic Update article, "Between man and women," written by U.S. Bishops.

The Rev. Brian Cummings is director of Campus Ministry. He said he sees the importance of civil unions, but knows first-hand that an amendment to ban gay marriages isn't going to be an easy task for the government or the rest of the voting nation. This will be a large issue in the presidential campaign, he said.

"Vermont had a very difficult experience at first (with civil unions), and voting was mostly split down the middle," Cummings said. "Same-sex marriages could result in even more splits of opinions and even controversy."

While both Democratic and Republican leaders in the elections have said they would not support same-sex marriages, Democratic candidates John Kerry and John Edwards said they would back lawful acts of civil unions and alternative lifestyles.

The question is whether civil unions and marriages are the same thing. Cummings said no, emphasizing a distinct difference does exist.

Speaking strictly from a Catholic religious standpoint, Cummings said he was comfortable with the current definition of marriage.

Civil unions do not have to be strictly between man and man or woman and woman, however, Cummings said. They can be between sister and brother or two widowed women, for example.

"Some people just need protection," he said, emphasizing that some need to live with the people they feel comfortable around, and not necessarily romantically involved. "Simply put, people depend on other people."

Bush, on the other hand, has not fully supported civil unions nor denied them, according to a recent New York Times article. Instead, he is leaving it up to each state to agree upon setting down laws and guidelines for its residents.

"Bush is being criticized for allowing civil unions. He seems to be trying to reach a middle ground and this is not going over well with his supporters," Cumming said in reaction to a Times article, in which a reporter discussed the split of the Republican Party over this issue.

Tobey and Dubuque said they stand firmly behind the president's announcement and his feelings about civil unions and gay marriages.

"There is a difference between the two and I am strongly against same-sex marriages," Tobey said. "However, I am less opposed to civil unions."

McCaffrey still stands firm against the president.

"Laws should never be

passed to ban the happiness and marriage of American citizens," McCaffrey said.

Dubuque said the government could interfere with the church if a law was passed allowing same-sex marriages, as the church would have to marry people in contradiction with their anti-homosexual beliefs.

Religion should ultimately have no part in politics if the United States followed its ruling of separation between church and state, McCaffrey said.

The church, however, does not feel that it is up to it or the government to decide what is right, according to the Catholic Update. It believes instead that God established these rules, stressing the point of procreation and how this happens between man and woman.

Answers to this week's crossword

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NEWS

GENDER CLUB: New group tries to set itself apart from other organizations on campus

Continued from Page 1

groups, Connolly said.

"While the S.A. minutes said our forming the club was based on our needs not being met," Connolly said, "we really saw the need for a more generic 'Gender Club' based upon the level of interest that ALLY, the Women's Center and the Gender and Women's Studies minor have generated."

Connolly said they plan to discuss cross-culture gender issues, gender in the work force, female business owners, how the media portrays men and women, including male eating disorders and body issues, and common gender assumptions.

"We really would like everyone to know this is not about feminism," Dwyer said. "It's a safe and open forum for discussing anything about gender."

The club's only male participant, first-year Dave Castro, said he wasn't uncomfortable being

the only man. Castro said he joined the group because his friends were in it.

"I think once the club gets going people will hear more through word of mouth," Castro said.

S.A. President Corinne O'Connor said she thought it was great to have another club in the S.A.

"I think what they are doing is superb," O'Connor said. "We are thrilled to have even more involvement, and although they are a separate and distinct club, I'm sure they will be co-sponsoring some events with other clubs on campus."

Kim Swartz, director of the Women's Center, said she thought the Gender Club was a good idea. "I don't see it as negative," Swartz said. "We will be collaborating with them on different things in the future."

ALLY Chairman Mike McCaffrey refused to comment on the Gender Club.

ALLY member Sarah Backe said she felt there was room for both clubs on campus, however.

"I believe some of the issues do overlap," Backe said. "I think that there is room for the two organizations, ALLY and Gender Club, to be able to work together to put on some programming in the future."

Connolly said the Gender Club is very different from other groups on campus. She said the group was started to give students a comfortable place to talk about gender issues.

"We're more academic and intellectual," Connolly said. "We are based around discussions, and the theory of gender issues. We're open to everything."

Club adviser and religious studies professor Donna Freitas said the club is very different from ALLY and the Women's Center.

"We do overlap with issues, except ALLY has its own issues and the Women's Center is an

official center sanctioned by the college," she said. "The Gender Club is students taking ownership of things they want to talk about in an informal environment."

Connolly said the Gender Club did not wish to replace the Women's Center or ALLY. It is only an extension of those groups, she said.

The Gender Club had its first official meeting Feb. 19, where 19 members watched and discussed the film, "thirteen," which describes a 13-year-old girl's descent into drugs and sex as she succumbs to peer pressure.

"Our discussion went really well," Connolly said. "It lasted for 45 minutes after the film ended. We talked about problematic stereotyping of single parents, race and class in the film, and the double standards for men and women."

Connolly said there was no set agenda for the future. They do plan to watch more movies

including "Tough Guise," which deals with men in the media, and "Secretary," a film that depicts a strange love relationship between a sadist and masochist.

"We also plan on funding club members to go to conventions and get speakers to come and talk," Connolly said.

Freitas said the club will probably have one meeting and event per month.

First-year Denise Gianini, who helped start the club, said she was most interested in the discussions and getting a male perspective on things.

"I've been interested in gender issues for a long time," Gianini said. "I think the school needed a separate club geared to both male and female perspectives."

The club will have its next official meeting on March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Edmund's 332 to begin formalizing events and topics for the rest of the semester.

FINANCIAL AID: New system to benefit first-years

Continued from Page 1

"This should not be a negative impact," he said. "If anything, we could give everybody a little more help."

Student Association President Corinne O'Connor, a senior, likes the current set up but

understands the need for change.

"I think that times are changing, and where the school is going, I think the plan is good, but I believe that my aid was structured well so I could return every year," O'Connor said.

Robinson said he hopes the awards given to current students

will increase, but he is not committing.

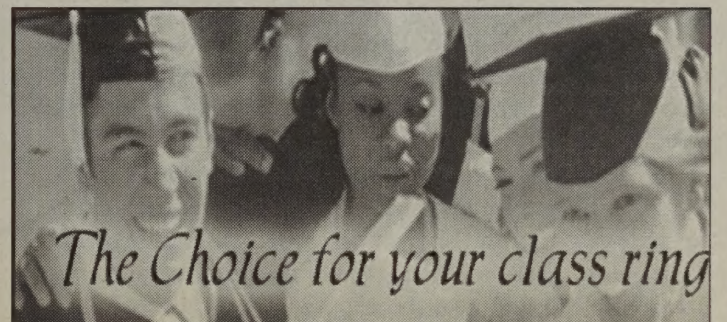
"We always try to help students who have additional needs anyway," Financial Aid Director Nelberta Lunde said. "The process of the budget has changed, but not how we give financial aid."



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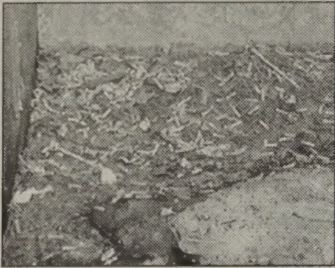
OPINION

Editorial

Give a hoot

You slob. Yes, you. You who believe that this campus is your personal trash can. We see you. You, who throw your empty Doritos bag in the bushes, leave your crushed beer boxes in the parking lots, and you who throw cigarette butts outside the dorms. You should be ashamed to call yourselves adults. First, cardboard doesn't decompose through asphalt. Second, cigarettes are disgusting enough; we don't need to see the leftovers. Third, grow up.

Although it is debatable whether a person is an adult at the age of 18, the state still considers you one. With adulthood comes the responsibility of picking up after yourself.



We were taught in kindergarten that if you take it out, put it away; if you open it, close it; if you make a mess, clean it up. So why is something so easy for kindergartners posing such a problem for college students?

It's because 85 percent of the students and some of the faculty at St. Michael's are lazy. We have to be responsible for very little on this campus, and it's true that cleaning up after ourselves isn't usually one of them. But, news flash: Physical Plant is not a personal maid service. It's not here to trail behind you and make sure each coffee cup and candy bar wrapper makes it into the trash bin.

It's becoming obvious why people enjoy winter so much. It's more of a reason to be lazy. "Oops, my sandwich wrapper jumped out of the bin, but that's OK, the next snowfall will hide it." Well, winter is rapidly disappearing and your irresponsibility will soon be exposed for all to see. Soon there will be more beer cans than crocuses sprouting up around campus.

It's impossible to go back four months and make the changes in these dirty habits, but not to worry, the problem can slowly be remedied now. By bending over and picking up a piece of trash on the walk to class, Alliot or to the library, we will be doing our part to ensure a cleaner campus come spring. Do this little something for the reputation of the college, which prospective students see as they tour the campus. Do this to thank Physical Plant because the workers never miss a beat when it comes to fixing your lights and making sure you have heat in the winter. Most important, do it for yourself. When the snow melts and you want to take to the grass with a Frisbee or a beach towel, lying on a heap of cigarette butts and dodging beer bottles isn't going to make for an enjoyable afternoon, now is it?

Cate Westberg

Cate Westberg
Executive Editor

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The Defender Mission Statement

As the editorial staff of The Defender, the student-run newspaper of St. Michael's College, we strive to accurately, professionally and ethically report the news affecting the lives of students in the community.

The decisions we make with regard to content and style are our own, and are influenced only by our goal of both informing and entertaining our readers.

We believe in the freedom of expression. We encourage our readers to express their views at any time.

The Defender publishes letters to the editor in response to articles that we have printed in the paper and issues on campus. The Defender does not publish anonymous letters. Letters will be edited only for grammar, spelling and good taste.

Photo of the week

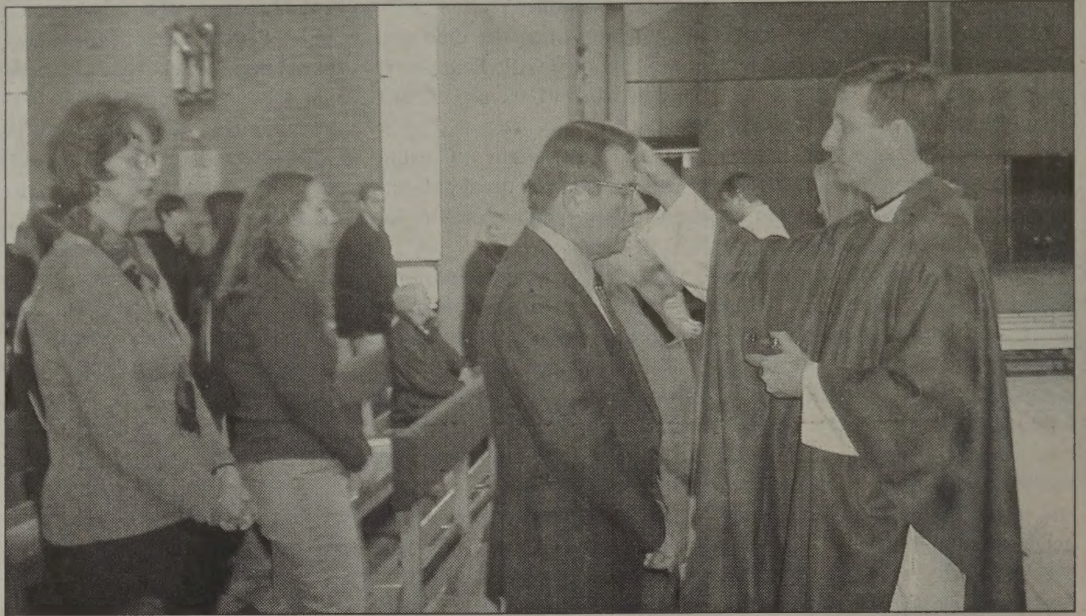


Photo by Josh Cooper

President vanderHeyden steps forward to receive ashes from the Rev. Brian Cummings last week during the Ash Wednesday service in the Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel. Dana vanderHeyden is at the far left.

Letters to the Editor

Students should live on campus

I am well aware that as the campus newspaper of St. Michael's College, The Defender does not have anything closely resembling the circulation, readership and influence of The Burlington Free Press and Seven Days.

Having said that, I must, as a full-time, permanent resident of the greater Burlington area (who happens to work for SMC), take issue with your Feb. 18 editorial.

You complain about the soon-to-be-extinct ability of SMC students to live off-campus, as the college administration is about to complete its goal of St. Mike's being a 100 percent residential college.

"Off-campus housing should be seen as a compliment to the college, not a curse," the editorial said. "St. Michael's should be proud that its students feel they have acquired the necessary knowledge, skills and independ-

ence to take such a huge step forward in their lives. There can be no better way to show that independence than living on your own, and the college should embrace every student's request for such a decision."

I don't disagree with the merits of The Defender's position. Unfortunately, the editorial ignores a cold, hard reality: The greater Burlington area is in the 14th year of a severe shortage of affordable rental housing.

For the past six years, both SMC and the University of Vermont have been under pressure from the administration of Burlington Mayor Peter Clavelle to build more on-campus housing to free up more rental housing units in the city for its full-time, permanent residents.

There has been almost no construction of new, affordable rental housing in Burlington and surrounding communities since 1990. This, combined with students taking up hundreds of rental units (particularly in the

Burlington neighborhood near the UVM campus known to locals somewhat derisively as the "Student Ghetto") has had one major result: Rents have gone sky-high, out of the reach of people who earn less than \$20,000 a year.

I was eventually forced to move out of Burlington six years ago because I could not afford the rents there (I now reside in a residential motel in Shelburne).

With no end in sight to the housing crunch in the foreseeable future, priority must be given to expanding housing opportunities for those of us who permanently call the Burlington area our home. I applaud the SMC administration for heeding Mayor Clavelle's call to relieve Burlington's housing crunch by building more on-campus housing for its students.

Sincerely,

Skeeter Sanders



FEATURES

CAMPUS SPEAKS

If you could nominate any movie to win best picture at the Oscars, which would you choose and why?



"If I could nominate another movie, I'd pick the third 'Matrix.' I found it provocative."

Kenneth Atkinson, '05



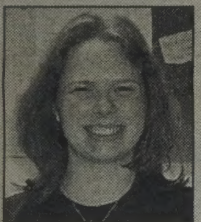
"Pirates of the Caribbean.' It was action-packed and full of fun."

Jessica Bergeron, '07



"Bruce Almighty.' Jennifer Aniston, that's all I have to say."

Mainul Haque, '06



"Cold Mountain' because I loved it, but I hated it. I was enthralled, but I wish the ending had never happened."

Kaitlin Murphy, '05

"I think 'The Lord of the Rings' should get it because the cinematography was amazing, and the landscape of New Zealand was really impressive."

Heather Rideout, '07

"Miracle,' 'cause it's a great portrayal of a country coming together."

Eric Swiezynski, '05

"Cold Mountain' because it's the one movie I didn't check my watch during."

Lindsay Hartwell, '04

"The Last Samurai' because it was like 'Braveheart.' One of the best movies I've ever seen. A good cross-culture film. It's a must see."

Eric Libardoni, '05



By Mark Byron
Staff Writer

Words are powerful tools. They are used in various ways, both positively and negatively. Some are more powerful than others, especially in the context they are used. One word in particular has certain restrictions that other words do not have.

Last week the Multicultural Student Affairs Office held an open discussion about the term nigger. The discussion included an explanation of the term's origin, how it has evolved and its significance today.

Corey Laster, director of Multicultural Student Affairs, said in the discussion that people were able to get an understanding of the background and history of the word. Those who attended walked away with a broader understanding of the use of language in our culture today, he said.

"Lots of students, as well as staff, attended conscious of a generation gap in which the younger generation is not used to hearing the word used in a negative light," Laster said.

Journalism professor Traci Griffith mediated the discussion. To break the ice she had everyone in the audience say the word in the most comfortable way they knew. Griffith said the word nigger has become the ultimate American insult.

"I think it has always been, and will always be, a negative, hateful word," Griffith said. "I believe it is similar to the 'F' word. Both words are vulgar and offensive."

Griffith does not use the word or support the use of it in any context. She said the word is negative regardless of how it might be used. It is negative when used by racists as a means of denigrating a race of people or by gangster rappers in its more modern form to promote a lawless lifestyle, Griffith said.

St. Michael's sophomore Dave O'Connor attended the discussion and said it did not go the way he thought it would.

"The discussion went well, but it was ultimately like preaching to the choir," O'Connor said. "People who attended were open-minded, but they came into the talk knowing what they wanted to discuss. It differentiated between the word nigger and 'nigga.'"

The word 'nigga' is used to embrace others, while nigger is an outright slur used as an insult, O'Connor said. He said he feels 'nigga' is used to embrace others the way the term 'bro' is.

According to Randall Kennedy's book "Nigger: The Strange Career of a Troublesome Word," nigger is derived from the Latin word niger, meaning the color black. The Random House



St. Michael's students discuss the history, evolution and meaning of a controversial word

Historical Dictionary of American Slang states nigger did not originate as a slur, but over time took on a derogatory connotation. The first shipments of African slaves in the 17th century were referred to as negers. By the beginning of the 19th century, nigger had become a familiar insult.

In his book, Kennedy said many African-Americans have adopted the word as an affectionate term. They have taken the word created by their oppressors and given it a positive meaning. Similarly, derogatory terms directed toward women, gays, lesbians, poor whites and children born out of wedlock have been redefined.

Sophomore Kimoi Seale said the discussion covered both the positive and negative ways in which the term was used.

"If I can use it, I don't see why anyone else shouldn't be able to," Seale said. "I don't understand why the term is still being used in a negative way; I thought those days were over."

Junior Dawana Whyte was exposed to the term all through her adolescence and teenage years. Growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y., the term was used frequently by Whyte and her neighbors and classmates.

"I never really thought what the word meant to me because I use it on a regular basis," Whyte said. "It becomes a part of your speech when you are brought up a certain way, listening to hip-hop and living in neighborhoods like mine. It's a part of my vocabulary like the word 'wicked' is to other people."

Whyte said the term nigger should only be used between people who are comfortable with one another. Under no circumstances should another person call you a nigger if that person doesn't know you, Whyte said.

First-year Jelean Durrant, also from Brooklyn, N.Y., agreed

with Whyte.

"I never thought too deeply about the word, but it bothered me that it was created to put African-Americans like myself down," Durrant said. "If I call my cousins niggers it's OK because it's said in a positive way, in a warm way. If I blurt it out to somebody I don't know I could be in trouble."

Durrant and Whyte said they feel very comfortable as black students in a school that is predominately white. Never has the term been used in a derogatory way toward them, and they believe in this day and age it never will.

"I wouldn't know how I would react if somebody called me a nigger as an insult," Durrant said. "I'll probably be overwhelmed with anger but instead of firing back I will approach whoever said it and consult with them about the situation. I wouldn't want to stoop to the level of somebody who called me a nigger."

In his book Kennedy's quotes a white man saying, "You don't have to be black to be a nigger. Niggers come in all colors. We are all colored ... There's about a hundred shades of white."

Two years after the release of Kennedy's book, students and staff at St. Michael's are still divided. Some walked away from the discussion thinking the word symbolized brotherhood, while it still evokes images of a hurtful past full of racism for others.

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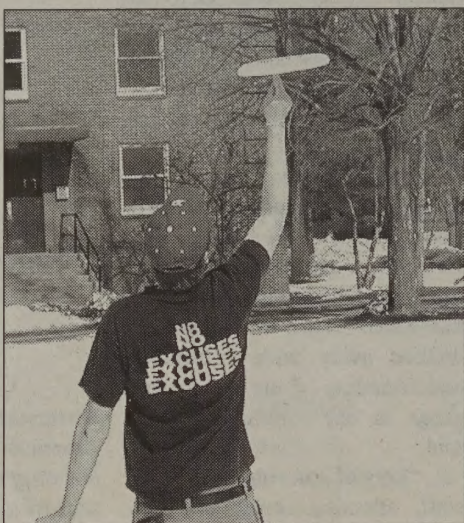
FEATURES



Photos by Josh Cooper

Spring fling

Monday's warm weather drew these students out of hibernation for a game of Frisbee. Above, junior Matt Hobin lays out for a diving catch. Unseen, but just as impressive, is the cigarette dangling from his lips as he gives his all for this aerial grab. At right is junior Chris Holt, who demonstrates that the index finger is useful for more than just dialing Domino's.



THE WASHINGTON POST MAGAZINE PUZZLE

Apropos Info

ACROSS

- 1 Spirited horses
6 Message board?
11 Bear up?
16 Meta
19 Land of ancient Sinos
20 Talk nonsense
21 Came out with
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27 Service to be repeated
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5 He may put you to sleep
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66 Arm bones
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78 De novo
79 Office outfit
80 Ice ...
81 Mrs. Chaplin
83 They're bowed
84 Depart
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86 Whistle-blower
87 Because of
90 "Alias" director
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93 Heaps
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95 Links feat
96 Carrie portrayer
97 Vaulted area
98 Like some dough
99 Ike's ex
100 Vitlles
102 Sloth partner
103 Series ender
106 Hellenic H
107 MLB blasts
108 Ho of Hawaii

Answers on Page 2

HOROSCOPES

**ARIES: (March 21-April 19)**

Honest criticism is hard to take from family and friends, but you'll find it even more difficult when it comes from a stranger.

**TAURUS: (April 20-May 20)**

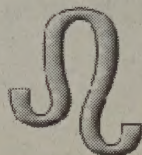
This week your desire to be needed by others could get you unfairly used, but don't lose your new-found optimism.

**GEMINI: (May 21-June 20)**

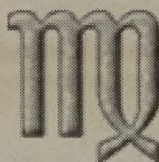
This week you will be eager to get to the bottom of things, and you discover the bravery to ask all the probing questions. But your intrusive nature can seem overbearing.

**CANCER: (June 21-July 22)**

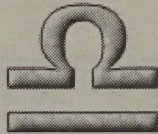
This week you might find it difficult making important decisions. Nervousness and an uncertain future hinder you, but remember if you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it.

**LEO: (July 23-Aug. 22)**

This week those around you will continuously challenge you to change your views and to act unlike yourself. Change is not a bad thing. Try to be open-minded and incorporate those other views.

**VIRGO: (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

This week you're unbelievably magnetic. When you walk into a room it feels like every eye is on you. It's the perfect opportunity to end old relationships and begin new ones.

**LIBRA: (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

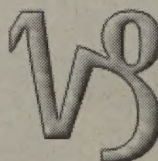
This week you're being pulled in two directions. Your friends from back home and here at school all want to spend time with you. Try bringing those two worlds together to relieve the strain.

**SCORPIO: (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

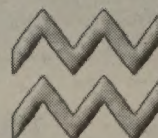
This week is the perfect time to find fresh solutions to old problems. Make up with a friend or try rewriting a flawed paper.

**SAGITTARIUS: (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

You and a loved one are out of sync, but all is not yet lost. Find some personal time to get to know each other all over again.

**CAPRICORN: (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

Nervousness and haste can spoil all good intentions. Before attempting an important project or surprise, try relaxing and showing confidence in your skill.

**AQUARIUS: (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

Tact and diplomacy were never your strong points. This week avoid trying to settle the conflicts between others. They might find their common bond in hating you.

**PISCES: (Feb. 19-March 20)**

This week you might feel impulsive and restless, making you prone to emotional outburst. Channel that energy through physical activity like dancing.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Inspirational poetry shared in intimate setting

Students fill in amid key speaker Melanie Goodreaux's absence

By Marissa Petrarca
Staff Writer

A small group of students gathered Thursday evening, Feb. 26, in Alliot to share their favorite pieces of poetry in an intimate setting.

The reading was put together by the Martin Luther King Jr. Society. This was the third event put on by Multicultural Student Affairs to celebrate Black History Month.

Melanie Goodreaux, a 1994 St. Michael's graduate and New York poet/playwright, was scheduled to participate in the event. However, she was unable to attend because of illness.

Despite her cancellation, the event went on with a handful of students.

Junior Shemaine Rose was in charge of the Black History Month events. Rose said she chose the idea of a poetry reading with the intention of people coming out and getting involved in an MLK Society event.

She said she tried to make it clear that events the MLK Society puts on are for all people, not just for African-American students.

Although Rose said she does not write poetry, she still likes to listen.

Ten students attended to listen or share their own poetry along with readings from famous

“It's good to make your notebook your friend.”

— Lakora Salih
junior

authors such as Langston Hughes and Nikki Giovanni, an African-American poet and activist.

Rose said she was pleased with the number of people who attended the event.

“I'm happy with the outcome because it was a small group and everyone was able to share something,” Rose said.

Junior Lakora Salih was the first to step up and share a poem, which she had written last year when she was in a “women empowerment” mood. The poem conveys the message that women should love themselves the way they are, as women.

Salih has been writing since she was 8 years old.

“At the age of 12, I realized what writing can do for you,” Salih said. “It's good to make your notebook your friend.”

Salih's poem for women got the ball rolling as first-year Mary Kohut stood at the lectern next. The inspiration for Kohut's second poem, titled “Moral Redemption,” came from a

speech she heard earlier that day given by a professor who spoke of a trip he took to Calcutta, India.

The pictures of poverty and starvation the professor showed the class led Kohut to write the line, “I'm feeding the machine, but aren't I supposed to fight it?”

This was the first poetry reading Kohut participated in, and she said she likes the idea of poetry reading.

“I feel like it allows people to come together and voice things that you may not get out of a typical lunch-table conversation,” Kohut said.

Not everyone in attendance came with intentions to read poetry. First-year Allison Morse said she changed her mind after reading “If We Must Die” by Claude McKay, a poem Rose handed her to read aloud.

After her initial reading, Morse ran back to her room and grabbed her binder full of poetry to share a poem a mentor of hers wrote, titled “Letter to My USA.” Morse decided to read her own poem, called “The Trauma of Aging.”

Morse has participated in poetry readings and poetry slams before and said it's fun to share poetry with other people because it can inspire them.

For an hour, students rotated from their seats to the lectern to share the poetry they brought.

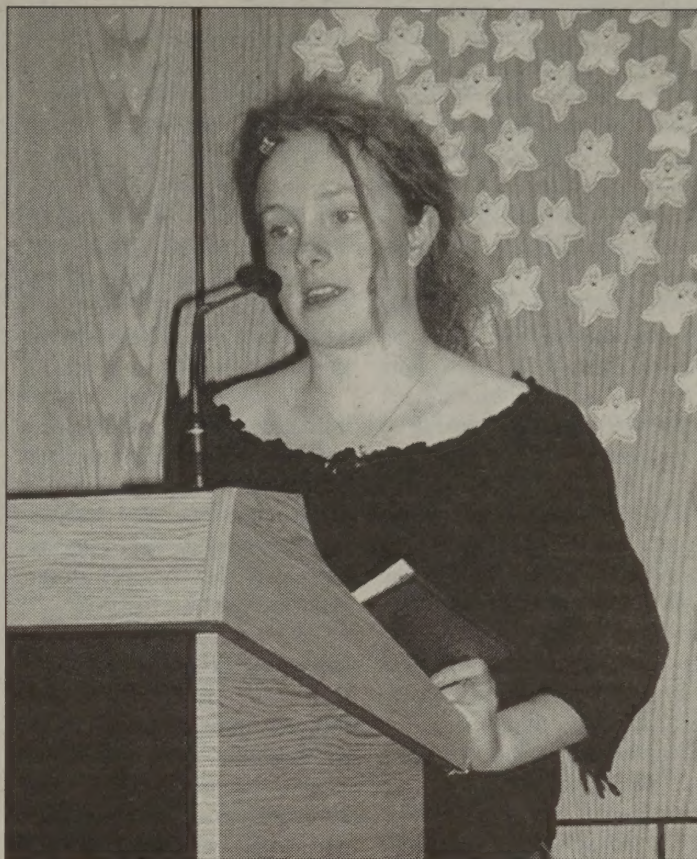


Photo by Amy Weinstock

First-year Mary Kohut reads two original pieces at the MLK Society's poetry reading on Feb. 26. One poem was inspired by a professor's trip to Calcutta, India. This was her first poetry reading.

After each reading, audience members nodded and clapped in support of the students who shared their work.

Another event like this might be in the works, Rose said. Goodreaux should be in the area

for the remainder of March, and Rose hopes to bring her in to share some of her experiences as a playwright in New York.

The night ended with Rose emphatically directing the people in attendance to “keep writing!”

St. Michael's students to perform ‘Blithe Spirit’

By Abby Sweetser
A&E Editor

In her acting career, first-year Candice Quilty has played a kitchen wench, a nun, a lovely lady and a peasant worker. On Wednesday, March 3, Quilty will add housemaid to her resume as she portrays the character of Edith in the St. Michael's production of the British comedy “Blithe Spirit.”

“I can't wait until opening night,” Quilty said. “It was a challenge at first; I had never done a British accent.”

Quilty is taking the stage with six other actors to play the colorful British characters in Noel Coward's play.

“Blithe Spirit” is the story of a writer who invites a psychic to his house for inspiration for a story, said Cathy Hurst, director and associate professor of fine arts. During a seance, the ghost of the writer's first wife is brought back to life, but only the writer can see her. The ghost of the first wife creates a lot of mischief in the house the writer now shares with a new wife.

The cast is significantly smaller in this play than in past productions, Hurst said.

“Our plays typically are much larger, with about 20



Photos by Josh Cooper

From left: Tracey Sullivan, Jon van Luling, Katie Kevorkian, Heather Asquith and Daniel Murphy practice their lines in one of their last rehearsals before opening night. The show opens Wednesday, March 3, at 7 p.m.



Kevorkian, Sullivan, Quilty and Murphy do a dress rehearsal of the British comedy they have been working on since September. Kevorkian, Quilty, and Murphy are all first-year students.

roles,” she said. The decision to do a play with a smaller cast was made in an effort to give theater majors the educational opportu-

nity of working with a smaller cast, she said.

“Blithe Spirit” is also unique this year in that both of the lead

roles are being played by first-year theater majors, Daniel Murphy and Katie Kevorkian.

“They have been wonderful,” Hurst said. “They are very talented; both of them came to St. Mike's with talent. They will have a bright future on the St. Michael's stage.”

Hurst said she was pleased with the performances of all the actors in the play.

The combination of new and seasoned actors has worked well for the production, Hurst said.

“Everyone brings their own skills into play,” she said. “It's a real mix and they all collaborate beautifully.”

The cast has been working on this play since September.

“Our shows typically have

about six weeks of rehearsals,” Hurst said. “But since the actors had to learn British dialects, we cast the show in September. Students rehearsed once or twice a week in the fall semester.”

The actors have continued to practice this semester and are earning credits for their time in the play.

Quilty said it was good to see the play come together after working on it for so long.

“It seems like we just started,” she said. “I've become closer with the cast and learned so much from all of them. There is so much talent in this cast.”

If you go

WHAT:
St. Michael's College main-stage spring production of Noel Coward's 1945 comedy “Blithe Spirit”

WHEN:
March 3-6 at 7 p.m.

WHERE:
McCarthy Arts Center

COST:
Admission is free and open to the public

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Ashley Judd stars in another 'Twisted' movie

By Abby Sweetser
A&E Editor

M.R.
movie review

Combining three veteran thriller actors for yet another suspense film can be either a very good or very bad idea. "Twisted" tries for a middle road. Going for a predictable but entertaining plot line, the movie twists viewers around but ultimately leaves them feeling only mildly shaken.

Ashley Judd plays the hard-drinking, hard-hitting, sex-addicted new homicide detective Jessica Shepard. She has a disturbing past and an even more disturbing way of drinking her problems away, while picking up random men at bars.

Aside from the shady men Jessica picks up, she also surrounds herself with a bunch of creepy-looking co-stars. Samuel L. Jackson is the man who raised and mentored her, Andy Garcia is her new partner who seems to want to mix business with pleasure, and David Strathairn is her shrink. No one really looks like the type of guy you would bring home to meet your parents.

Judd plays her character with intensity, as she has in past thrillers such as "Kiss the Girls" and "Double Jeopardy."

It certainly seems a little twisted to watch her beat the snot out of people while still maintain-

"Twisted"

Director: Philip Kaufman
Writer: Sarah Thorp
Starring: Ashley Judd, Samuel L. Jackson, Andy Garcia
Rating: 7.5 out of 10

ing her perfect pixie looks. But she manages to pull it off with a haunted look in her eyes that makes you believe there is a whole lot more to her than even the camera is allowed to see.

The rest of the cast is upstaged by her presence, perhaps because they are intimidated by Jessica's rage problems. It seems more like they spent so much time trying to develop her character they simply forgot about the rest.

Jackson does a fair job being the creepy good guy you never quite trust, although he didn't measure up to his potential, and he wasn't in enough scenes to make the impact he could. More development of his relationship with Jessica would have made a world of difference to the movie.

When Jessica's ex-lovers start showing up beaten almost beyond recognition, things start to take some interesting turns. With the dead boyfriends piling

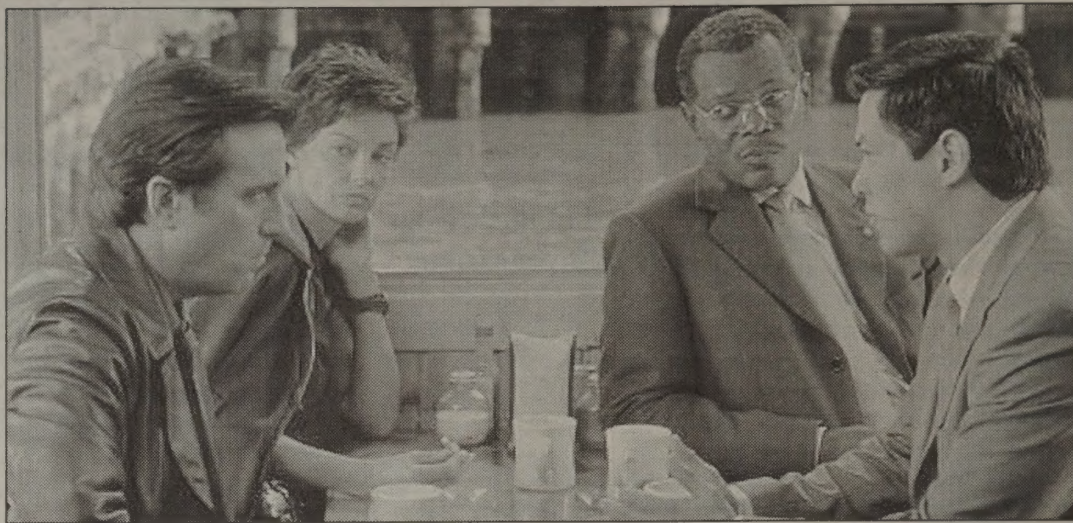


Photo from Paramount Pictures

Detective Jessica Shepard (Judd) sits down for coffee and suspicion with her mentor (Jackson), boss (Russell Wong) and partner (Garcia). Everyone is a suspect in this new thriller, even Jessica herself.

up, combined with Jessicas violent personality, her drinking problems, blackouts and promiscuous lifestyle, you can't help but be as unsure of the character's innocence as she is of herself.

The writers try to confuse the audience by never showing a murder. Instead this makes the audience think the killer could be anyone involved, as none of them seem to be trustworthy.

The movie does an excellent job of avoiding the obviously gory shots for the sake of those of us with a squeamish stomach. There are a few scenes with beaten bodies and one not-so-inviting

bloody hot tub. In the end I was impressed that this movie chose to focus on the suspense and suspicion rather than the blood and guts.

The first half of the movie is spent twisting and turning, leaving the audience not quite sure what is going on, let alone where it is headed. Unfortunately, as quickly as the movie becomes confusing, it is all cleared up.

By the time the fourth body is found, you are pretty sure you have figured it out, and if you're a suspense watcher, I'm sure you'll guess right. It seems as

though the writers found themselves so twisted up in the first half of the movie they forgot about the the ending. The second half just tumbles into your hands, which is disappointing.

In the end, the audience is left feeling pretty good about themselves, having guessed the ending and finally knowing who the good guy is.

"Twisted" is another movie to be released this year that is not trying to break any barriers or play with your mind too much. But it does twist and turn the characters around enough to justify the movie title.

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 - Free use of recreational facilities

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES - SUMMER 2004

AR 205B Drawing I (3cr.)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 1:00 - 2:05 p.m., June 21 - July 30 (LSR: Artistic Experience)

AR 313 Western Calligraphy (3cr.)

Monday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m., May 17 - June 25 Studio Fee \$40. LSR: Artistic Experience

AR 327A Ceramics I: Wheel Throwing (3cr.)

Tuesday & Thursday, 8:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., May 18 - June 17 Burlington City Arts Clay Studio, Main St., Burlington Studio Fee \$100. LSR: Artistic Experience

AR 327C Ceramics I: Wheel Throwing (3cr.)

Tuesday & Thursday, 8:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., June 22 - July 22 Burlington City Arts Clay Studio, Main St., Burlington Studio Fee \$100. LSR: Artistic Experience

AR 327B Ceramics I: Wheel Throwing (3cr.)

Tuesday & Thursday, 6:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., May 18 - June 17 Burlington City Arts Clay Studio, Main St., Burlington Studio Fee \$100. LSR: Artistic Experience

AR 327D Ceramics I: Wheel Throwing (3cr.)

Tuesday & Thursday, 6:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., June 22 - July 22 Burlington City Arts Clay Studio, Main St., Burlington Studio Fee \$100. LSR: Artistic Experience

BI 335 Advanced Topics: Biology of Fishes (4cr.)

Monday - Friday, 8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., May 24 - June 18 Lab Fee \$100.

BU 313 Managerial Leadership (3cr.)

Monday & Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. - 8:10 p.m., May 24 - June 30

BU 315 Financial Policies of Corporations (3cr.)

Tuesday & Thursday, 2:00 p.m. - 4:55 p.m., May 18 - June 24

Classes are held on campus unless otherwise noted.

Three- and Four-Week Courses

THREE-WEEK COURSES

AR 205A Drawing I (3cr.)

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., May 17 - June 4 LSR: Artistic Experience

CS 101 Introduction to Computing (4cr.)

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. - 2:40 p.m. lab May 17 - June 4 LSR: Natural/Math Science

MU 101 Rudiments of Music (3cr.)

Monday - Friday, 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., May 17 - June 4 LSR: Artistic Experience

TH 321 Playwriting (3cr.)

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., May 17 - June 4

FOUR-WEEK COURSES

BU 141 Financial Accounting (4cr.)

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., May 17 - June 11

BU 211 Management Information Systems (3cr.)

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., June 15 - July 8

BU 271 International Business (3cr.)

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 1:00 p.m. - 4:10 p.m., June 29 - July 22

BU 303 Management & Org. Behavior (4cr.)

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., May 17 - June 11 LSR: Social Science/Org. Studies

JO 413A Journalism Practicum (3cr.)

Online May 17 - June 18

JO 413B Journalism Practicum (3cr.)

Online June 21 - July 30

MA 101 Finite Math (3cr.)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., May 17 - June 11 LSR: Natural/Math Science

PO 120 Introduction to American National Government (3cr.)

Monday - Thursday, 5:00 p.m. - 7:25 p.m., June 7 - July 1 LSR: Social Science/Org. Studies

PO 203 American Foreign Policy (3cr.)

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 5:00 p.m. - 8:10 p.m., July 6 - July 29

PS 270 Cognitive Psychology (3cr.)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:20 p.m., May 31 - June 24

CH 101 Chemistry for Changing Times (3cr.)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m. - 11:55 a.m., May 17 - June 18 LSR: Natural/Math Science

EC 101 Macroeconomic Theory (3cr.)

Monday & Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. - 8:10 p.m., May 17 - June 23 LSR: Social Science/Org. Studies

EC 103 Microeconomic Theory (3cr.)

Tuesday & Thursday, 5:00 p.m. - 8:10 p.m., May 18 - June 24 LSR: Social Science/Org. Studies

EN 403 Special Topics in Film: Documentary Film (4cr.)

Tuesday & Thursday, 6:20 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., May 18 - June 24

EN 413 Special Topics in English: Creative Writing (4cr.)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., June 14 - July 23

JO 205 Writing for Media (4cr.)

Monday - Thursday, 12:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m., May 31 - July 15

JO 319 Photojournalism (3cr.)

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m., May 17 - June 24

MA 102 Elementary Statistics (3cr.)

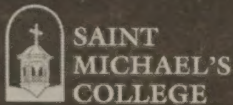
Monday & Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. - 8:10 p.m., May 17 - June 23 LSR: Natural/Math Science

PH 103 Intro to Philosophical Problems (3cr.)

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., June 28 - July 30 LSR: Philosophy

TH 205 Introduction to Acting (3cr.)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 1:00 p.m. - 3:05 p.m., May 17 - June 25 LSR: Artistic Experience



For the most current information and registration forms, stop by the Registrar's Office (Jeanmarie 288) or visit

www.smcvt.edu/summer



HEALTH & FITNESS

Two free meditation workshops offered to soothe students' jangled nerves

By Katie Neville
Staff Writer

It is that time of year when students are coming back from one break, anticipating the next, and in between suffering through midterms and papers.

The stress of school can build up at these times. One way to relieve the stress can be meditation.

There are different kinds of meditation, ranging from Christian to Buddhist to relaxation meditation. But finding time to meditate can be challenging for students.

However, a recommended time period for meditation is only 10 to 15 minutes, said Joanne Nelson, associate director of Campus Ministry.

"Don't put any constraints on the time at first," Nelson said. "Meditation is retreating away from the grind of your everyday life."

Nelson leads meditation for groups such as residence hall floors and MOVE leaders. This type of meditation is meant to help with destressing in a non-religious way.

Junior Jennifer Gale tries to

meditate every morning, but realistically gets it in four or five mornings a week.

"I put up my shades for sunshine," Gale said. "I'm in my room, I close my door and I put on my Zen CD."

Gale got into meditation when she studied in South Africa last semester.

When Nelson leads these meditation exercises, she asks the participants to lie on the floor with shoes off, in a dimly lighted, uncluttered room. She then plays soft, instrumental music, such as Enya, and talks them through the exercise in a soft, soothing voice.

Gale likes more natural light

instead of darkness, and feels that the morning is the best time of day to meditate.

The exercises Nelson guides call for the tensing and relaxing of different muscle groups, starting at the head and working down to the feet. It is important to always remember to breathe while meditating, she said.

"I ask them to be conscious of their breath, the intake and outtake," Nelson said. "The breathing creates a rhythm."

Nelson recommends that once people get the instructions online they tape themselves saying them out loud and play the tape over the music as a guide.

This type of meditation is a way to relieve stress because it centers on relaxing your muscles, which will in turn relaxes your mind, Nelson said.

Gale agrees and also said meditation is a good way to relieve stress.

"I think it is stress-preventative," Gale said. "If I start my day slowly, then I don't turn into a stress ball throughout the day."

Gale and Nelson said meditation is a gift to oneself.

"It takes a lot of discipline and self-love," Gale said. "You really have to want to do something for yourself. Stick to it and eventually it will make your life better."

Gale is planning to attend the meditation workshop offered by Barry Weiss at St. Michael's March 3 and 10.

"This is an opportunity to explore something different. We can explore if there's enough interest to be able to offer a class next year," said Marcel Choquette, director of intramural and recreational sports, who put the classes together.

For some students, meditation is not something they enjoy doing on a regular basis.

"Part of me doesn't really want to meditate," sophomore Kylé Hildebrand said, "but the relaxation part has a lot to do with it. So I guess if relaxation is the key then I'd probably try it."

Hildebrand tried meditation his senior year of high school when his baseball coach made the team lie in the outfield, relax and think of a cool place. However, Hildebrand has not had much practice meditating since then.

"It's just not one of those things that are top on my priority list," Hildebrand said. "Going to work out and falling asleep are ways I relieve stress."

Sophomore Nancy Winters has tried meditation in the past,

Meditation tips

■ Choose a quiet, peaceful place. Meditation in a noisy area will most likely be unsuccessful.

■ Wear loose-fitting, comfortable clothing that will allow for easy breathing and relaxation. Remove any jewelry that could be irritating or distracting.

■ Meditate with eyes closed, and focus on deep, filling breaths. With every exhalation try to get rid of stress, unhappiness and any other bad feelings.

■ Sit in a cross-legged position with your back well supported or lie on your back.

■ Soft music can be helpful in meditating.

Information courtesy of www.all-sands.com/Religious/NewAge/meditationtechn_soo_gn.htm

although she said without guidance it is too hard to clear her mind, and it is not something she does regularly.

"I realized after I had done meditation that I had never, ever, ever been completely without a thought in my head and not thinking about anything," Winters said. "I enjoyed the experience but I will never be a practicing meditating person."

Being with friends or doing something quietly in her room is Winters' idea of stress relief.

The Shambhala Meditation Center in St. Johnsbury offers classes for meditation. On Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays it offers hourlong meditation services. A center is also located on South Winooski Avenue in Burlington.

The St. Michael's classes are free, and students will be invited to both of the available Wednesday night classes when they sign up.

Nelson and Gale said meditation can be beneficial to all people in relieving stress.

"People will say, 'I can never clear my mind,'" Nelson said. "Once you get over that, you crave the time you spend meditating. It is doing what your heart, mind and soul want most."

Meditation workshops

■ Barry Weiss will teach free Wednesday workshops from 6-7:30 p.m. on March 3 and 10.

■ Sign up in the Intramural Office or contact Marcel Choquette at Ext. 2903 or mchoquette@smcvt.edu.

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OUTDOORS



Photos courtesy of Gordon Hines

St. Michael's junior Gordon Hines takes the inside edge in a skiercross competition. Skiercross is similar to downhill racing, except several racers go at the same time, battling for position on the way down.

SMC Freeride Club grows in popularity

By Joel Lehman
Outdoors Editor

Founded by a group of sophomores during the fall semester of 2002, the Freeride Club has grown to 30 members, giving St. Michael's snowboarders and skiers an opportunity to enter regional competitions such as big air, skier/boardercross and slopestyle.

The idea for the club began when a group of skiers and riders, including the Freeride Club's president, junior Michael Rosenberg, would hear about different competitions, but didn't have the money to enter. Rosenberg went to the Student Association and lobbied to make it an official club, which would give them a budget.

St. Michael's is one of the first schools in the country to have a club of this type, Rosenberg said. Even the University of Vermont doesn't have one.

With \$2,000 funding, the Freeride Club is able to enter skiing and snowboarding competitions as far away as Sunday River, Maine. The club pays for member's entry fees – which usually ranges from \$10-\$20 per participant – arranges car pools, and even covers money for gas.

The Freeride Club enters competitions at places like Stowe, Jay Peak, Mount Snow, Loon Mountain, and Sugarbush, Vice President Ryan Stokey said. Many of the events are sanctioned by the American Skiing Co. and Palmer Snowboards.

Stokey, who has been snowboarding for eight years, said the club has grown through word of mouth, as well as campus wide e-mails that invite anyone, regardless of skill level, to join. The club is open to both men and women.

Junior Hans de Boer, a member of the club, said you don't have to be an amazing skier or snowboarder to be a part of the club. "I'm not that good," de Boer said, "but because I (am in the club) I've gotten a lot better and increased my love for the sport."

De Boer said the club is very relaxed, and there is no pressure to be the best skier or snowboarder. While that may be true, de Boer said there are some very good skiers and snowboarders in the club, and they often compete against sponsored athletes.

The Freeride Club enters about 15 events per year, Rosenberg said. Of the 30 members in the club, usually between five and 12 members will attend each event.

The club is also able to occasionally pay for practice sessions for the Freeride Club participants.

While most members of the club don't expect to win every event, St. Michael's students have had some success in the competitions.

Rosenberg, who also races on the St. Michael's varsity alpine team, came in first place at Jay Peak in a slopestyle competition last year.

To join the Freeride Club, contact Michael Rosenberg at mrosenberg@smcvt.edu.



Junior Linette Letendre takes an early lead in a boardercross race. The Freeride Club is open to both skiers and snowboarders.

Spring marks season for outdoor gear sales

Stores are trying to clear out winter gear with price cuts as snow begins to melt

By Ryan Deveau
Staff Writer

When the snow begins to melt and the days grow longer, surely spring is right around the corner. There's another sign that it's almost spring: Outdoor stores put many of their winter products on sale, making room for summer gear.

This is the case for most outdoor stores, anyway. The independently owned Outdoor Gear Exchange on Cherry Street in Burlington is unique in that it doesn't have spring clearance sales. Jason "Oak" Stanley, the floor manager of OGE, explains why.

"This store is about the people. We have low prices all the time to help and encourage people to participate in outdoor activities," Stanley said.

Stanley can relate to the people who shop at OGE. He said all the employees he works with are thrifty, just like the people who shop there, and having inexpensive gear year-round is beneficial to the loyal customers who truly enjoy the outdoors and don't mind wearing older gear.

Another aspect that separates OGE from other outdoor stores, and an important aspect that determines decisions regarding spring sales, is that all employees directly benefit from the products sold.

"It all depends on through whom and where the money is going," Stanley said. "We all reap the benefits here. There isn't just one person making out."

For many stores however, the end of season sales are vital for their business to survive.

Tom Miller, a bike department employee at the Ski Rack in Burlington, said there is a need for companies to have spring sales in order to make room for summer gear.

Miller, who sees new products come and go every year, said, "just like computers, technology advances each year, and consumers want to get the most out of their money, so they buy the new products."

He explained that Ski Rack puts a sale price last year's \$4,500 bike this year's \$4,500 bike has better technology. If the store didn't put a sale price on its 2003 models, the products wouldn't sell.

"If products aren't selling, then they are taking up storage space, and space equals money," Miller said.

Stanley said it is not only expensive to have leftover gear sticking around, but it is expensive for the company to re-stock and take inventory for remaining gear.



Photo by Josh Cooper

Sleeping bags and backpacks line the walls of Eastern Mountain Sports on Dorset Street in South Burlington.

EMS spring club day sale

When

Beginning at 4 p.m., Friday, April 23, and lasting all day Saturday, April 24

Where

Eastern Mountain Sports, 100 Dorset St., South Burlington

What

EMS is taking 20 percent off all goods for members of outdoor clubs. All you need is your student I.D.

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CALENDAR

3

Wednesday

Golf Classic. Golf Classic meeting in the Tarrant Hall of Fame Room from 7:45 to 10 a.m. Call Nancy Boucher at Ext. 2212 for more information.

Senior Pictures. Senior portraits for the Class of 2004 will be taken in Alliot Student Lounge from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Commencement. The commencement committee will hold a meeting in St. Edmund's Farrell Room from 10 to 11 a.m. Call Madeleine Rabideau at Ext. 2216 for information.

Bud Night. Top 40 Dance Party with DJ Robbie J Wednesday night at Club Millennium. Doors open 10 p.m. No cover charge. 21+

Coffee Hour. International Coffee Hour in St. Edmund's Foyer from 3:15 to 4 p.m. Call Jacqui Samale at Ext. 2303 for information.

Yoga. There will be a yoga class in Alliot's Vermont Room from 4 to 5 p.m. Contact Kim Swartz at Ext. 2667 to sign up.

Karaoke. Show off your musical talent Wednesday night for Top Hat Karaoke at 135 Pearl. Doors open at 9 p.m. No cover charge.

Gender Club. The Gender Club will hold a meeting in St. Edmund's 332 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Blithe Spirit. St. Michael's College fine arts department is staging Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit, An Improbable Farce," March 3-6, each evening at 7 p.m. in the McCarthy Arts Center. Tickets are not required.

4

Thursday

Senior Pictures. Senior portraits for the Class of 2004 will be taken in the Alliot Student Lounge from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sanchez. The No More Heartache Tour presents Sanchez with Richard Stephens at Higher Ground. Tickets are \$14 in advance, \$16 the day of the show. Doors open at 9 p.m. 18+

Singing lessons. There will be singing lessons for anyone interested in an acting career in McCarthy Arts Recital Hall from 10 to 12 p.m.

Women's Center. The Women's Center will hold a discussion meeting from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in Alliot 205. Anyone interested is welcome.

Guitar Club. The Guitar Club will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. in St. Edmund's Farrell Room. Contact Rick Leggett at Ext. 2632 for further information.

String fever



Photo courtesy of Higher Ground

Eileen Ivers, the fiddler from Riverdance, performs Immigrant Song at Higher Ground on March 7. Tickets are \$17 in advance, \$20 the day of the show. Doors open at 7 p.m. All ages show.

Ladies Night. Ladies join DJ Robbie J Thursday at Millennium Nightclub. Doors open at 10 p.m. No cover charge. 21+

Rock On! 135 Pearl rocks the house Thursday with Queen City Rock with Chia and Elliot. Doors open at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

5

Friday

Homage to Flight Gallery Exhibit. "Homage to Flight" will be at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. The exhibit will be on display from March 5 to May 1. The exhibit is open Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Senior Pictures. Senior portraits for the Class of 2004 will be taken in Alliot Student Lounge from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Samples. WNCS and Magic Hat welcome The Samples with Rick Reddington to Higher Ground. Tickets are \$13 in advance, \$15 the day of the show. Doors open 8 p.m. 18+

Creative Dance. Erika Senft-Miller will hold a creative dance class in Tarrant's dance studio from 10:25 to 11:40 a.m. Contact Katherine Orthman at Ext. 2571 for details.

Flava. DJ Robbie J and DJ Toxic hand-spin hip-hop, R&B, house and techno Friday night at Millennium Nightclub. Doors open at 9 p.m. \$3 cover charge. 21+

Shen Wei Dance Arts. Shen Wei Dance Arts presents "The Rite of Spring" on the Flynn Center MainStage. Tickets are \$25.50 to \$29. Children and students save \$4. Performance begins at 8 p.m. Contains partial nudity; not recommended for young children.

Informative Speaker. Lyn Mikel Brown will speak on "Fighting Like a Girl" in St. Edmund's Farrell Room from noon to 1 p.m. Contact Sharon Lamb at Ext. 2638 for details.

Surprise Me Mr. Davis. Surprise Me Mr. Davis featuring The Slip, Nathan Moore and Leslie Helpert, play Club Metronome. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 the day of the show. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. All-ages show.

Family Weekend. Family Weekend registration runs from 3 to 7 p.m. in Alliot's lobby. Call Jennie Cernosia at Ext. 2568 for information.

Knight Life Choices. Knight Life Choices will host a dance from 9 p.m. to midnight in Alliot's Green Mountain Dining Room. Contact Tim Kaleita at Ext. 2693 for information.

Mass. St. Michael's College welcomes the community to Mass in the St. Michael's Chapel at 4 p.m. at which time new members of the Alpha Nu Chapter of Delta Epsilon Sigma, the national Catholic honor society, will be inducted.

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Saturday

Family Weekend. Family Weekend Registration runs from 9 a.m. to noon in the Alliot lobby. Call Jennie Cernosia at Ext. 2568 for information.

Suspect. Suspect with State Radio, featuring Chad Urmston of Dispatch, and Zox come to Higher Ground. Tickets are \$8 at the door. Doors open at 8 p.m. All ages.

Science Presentation. Chemistry/physics presentation in Cheray 101 and 111 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Speakers will include John Van Houten, Sandy

Karstens, and Alayne Schroll.

Wind and Jazz. Wind and Jazz Concert in McCarthy Recital Hall from noon to 2 p.m. All are welcome.

Parent Luncheon. Parent Leadership Luncheon in Alliot's Vermont Room from noon to 2 p.m.

Fire/Rescue Demonstration. Fire and Rescue will hold a demonstration on fire safety techniques on the 300s Field from 1 to 3 p.m.

President's address. President vanderHeyden will address the families that have participated in Family Weekend from 2 to 3 p.m. in Cheray 101.

Chorale Concert. The Family Weekend chorale concert will begin at 3 p.m. in McCarthy Recital Hall. All are welcome.

Open mic. Alliot's Rathskeller lounge will have an open mic coffee house from 9 p.m. to midnight. All are welcome.

Spin Cycle. Hip-hop/house party with DJ Toxic and DJ Robbie J Saturday night at Millennium Nightclub. Doors open at 9 p.m. \$3 cover charge. 21+

7

Sunday

Girl Scout Cookies. There will be a Girl Scout cookie sale in the Alliot lobby from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Eileen Ivers. An evening with Eileen Ivers, the fiddler from Riverdance, performs Immigrant Song at Higher Ground. Tickets are \$17 in advance, \$20 the day of the show. Doors open at 7 p.m. All ages show.

8

Monday

Mike Patton. Mike Patton and Rahzel with JS One and DJ Still play Higher Ground. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$22 the day of the show. Doors open at 8 p.m. 18+

9

Tuesday

Liquid Lounge. Come join the 135 Pearl crew Tuesday for drinks and music. Doors open at 10 p.m. No cover charge.

Jazz Ensemble Class. Jazz Ensemble class 7:30 to 9 p.m. Mondays at Elley Long Music Center, Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. This is a hands-on class with members of the Swingin' Vermont Big Band. Call 899-1869 for more information.

Vermont Student Festival. The student festival is presented by Vermont Chapter, International Association of Jazz Adjudicators and the Flynn Center. The festival begins at 7 p.m. on the Flynn Center MainStage. Tickets will be given by donation at the door.

The Defender welcomes any notice of upcoming events.

Suspect plays Higher Ground



Photo courtesy of Higher Ground

Suspect with State Radio, featuring Chad Urmston of Dispatch, and Zox will play Higher Ground on March 6. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the show is for all ages. Tickets available at the door only for \$8.

COLUMNS

For the love of marriage

OK, let's talk marriage for a minute. As the fight over gay marriage continues to rage in this country, I would like to take a minute and offer a rational defense of gay marriage in light of President Bush's comments on why it should be banned.

For starters, one of Bush's main points was his intention to preserve the sanctity of marriage.

CYNICS
ANYONYMOUS



Edward DiFiglia

Sanctity of marriage? Are you kidding me? The divorce rate in this country is astronomical. Movie stars and rock stars get married on whims and then get divorced only to re-marry someone else within a few years and start the process of marriage-divorce-marriage all over again. Britney Spears was married on a Saturday and single again the following Monday. What sanctity of marriage? It seems as if marriage in this country has become a joke. Yet there is a group of people who want to get married for love, the reason people should get married, and these people would ruin the sanctity of marriage? Sorry, but in all honesty, I

think the sanctity of marriage has already been ruined, and a large influx of people marrying for love might just be the only thing left to save marriage from disappearing altogether.

Let's switch the focus and look at the religious aspect of this situation. Bush said marriage cannot be separated from, among other things, its religious significance. Actually, it can and should, as far as the federal government is concerned. Americans have freedom from religion, which is supposed to protect the rights of any group of people in this country from having rights denied them because of the religion of those in power.

Furthermore, we're talking about marriage as a legal institution when we talk about legalizing gay marriages, not a religious one. I'm sure that some religions will welcome gay marriages and allow them in their places of worship, and I'm sure that there will be some that won't, but that is an issue for them to decide, and the federal government can't make them marry anyone they don't want to.

When we talk about gay marriages being legalized by federal and state governments, we're merely talking about the ability to have a financial agreement between two people who love one another so much that they

wish to completely intertwine their lives. No two people should be denied this right.

What scares me is we are saying one minority group cannot have the same rights as everyone else. Isn't this what Democracy is supposed to protect? Isn't this America, land of the free, home of the brave? How can anyone who is a true patriot say any American is not worthy of the same rights as every other American?

Contact Edward DiFiglia at edifiglia@smcvt.edu

An uneven playing field

As a San Francisco Giants fan, perhaps I have my own things to worry about. The Giants gave away a great shortstop in Rich Aurilia, Barry Bonds was accused of steroid use, and the starting rotation is anything but stellar. But when I look at the New York Yankees lineup I can't help but think, doesn't the American League All-Star team have too many Yankees on it?

The Yankees have arguably the greatest lineup baseball has ever seen.

Jason Giambi at first, Derek Jeter at short, Bernie Williams in center, Gary Sheffield in right and Jorge Posada behind the plate. Hideki Matsui will take up position in left and Enrique Wilson will play second. These seven starting players combined for 154 home runs and a .280 batting average in 2003. Of course, the Yankees will have a designated hitter, as well, who will throw a handful of home runs into the mix and a pretty decent batting average.

Mike Mussina and Kevin Brown will head, arguably, the weakest spot of the Yankees lineup: pitching.

This is a great lineup and one that could contend for a World Series if not win it outright in 2004. There is just one problem with this lineup: no third baseman. Aaron Boone, the hero of Game 7 in the American League Championship last year (sorry Red Sox fans) was recently released. Good old George Steinbrenner had different plans for his third baseman this year.

Weeks after the Alex Rodriguez deal to the Red Sox seemed dead and buried, in walks the leader of the Evil Empire, George "Darth Vader" Steinbrenner. The hearts of every Red Sox fan skipped a beat when they heard that Vader was trying to acquire one of the best players

in baseball, a player the Red Sox were unable to obtain when a deal that would land the shortstop in Boston fell through. Every Red Sox fan believed A-Rod would remain in Texas. But Sox fans still couldn't help but wonder what it would have been like to see Rodriguez in a Boston uniform. Despite this unsuccessful trade, things seemed as though they would be fine. The Red Sox had acquired one of the best starting pitchers in baseball in Curt Schilling, and there were no more worries about closing games by committee since picking up closing pitcher Keith Foulke from the Oakland A's.

Just when Beantown appeared to have a leg up on the vaunted Yankees, in walks Alex Rodriguez and his 47 home runs and .298 batting average in 2003. The man who almost came to Boston lands himself with the hated New York Yankees.

As a fan of the Giants, who play in the National League, I shouldn't care about a trade like this until it affects me, which would arguably be in the World Series. But as a fan of baseball this does bother me immensely. Alex Rodriguez will make \$22 million next year with the Yankees, increasing the Yankees' team salary to over \$180 million in 2004. Texas will pay \$67 million of A-Rod's \$179 million remaining on a contract that began in 2001 at \$252 million over 10 years. Rodriguez is going to make close to \$40,000 per at bat in 2004. This is ludicrous. And I would find it so even if he played in San Francisco. At this point my argument doesn't fall primarily on the fact that he is playing for the Yankees. Nobody is worth this much money unless they could cure cancer, AIDS and have an efficient plan to resolve world peace.

The man is being paid to play a sport. Granted he is one of the best in the business, but to be paid such an exorbitant amount is just obscene. The contract was initiated in 2001 when he left the Seattle Mariners in hopes of winning a World Series in Arlington with the Texas Rangers.

The Yankees, in 2003, led all

of baseball by more than \$35 million in team salary. In 2004 they continue the trend, leading by more than \$70 million. The Los Angeles Dodgers are second with \$115 million, and the Red Sox aren't far behind that at \$100 million. With no salary cap in baseball, the Yankees have attempted to buy themselves a World Series. And in all reality, why not? If all Steinbrenner has to worry about is a luxury tax, which spreads money down to the lower-end teams, then why not buy a winning team. He can afford it.

But how can a team like Milwaukee, Toronto, or Tampa Bay compete when they are spending less than \$30 million on an entire team? A-Rod will make \$22 million this year alone. Granted some of the teams don't want to spend money on good players, but there are teams out there such as the Milwaukee Brewers and Montreal Expos which are owned by Major League Baseball and not an individual. These teams will never compete because MLB won't spend excessive amounts of money to make the teams better. Without a salary cap, teams like the Yankees will continue to buy themselves World Series caliber teams.

The Yankees are spending money because they can, and they are spending money on talent that will get them to the World Series. This isn't a slam on the Yankees, but a slam on baseball.

One reason the National Football League sells well to consumers is because of the salary cap. There are other aspects of the game that appeal to different people outside of this, but with a salary cap every team can realistically contend for a Super Bowl. There are teams that won't spend the money on a championship caliber team, but that has nothing to do with not being able to afford such a team. In 2003 the NFL salary cap was \$75.1 million, with the average payroll at \$71.77 million. The New England Patriots and Carolina Panthers, who met in the Super Bowl, had team salaries of \$74.77 and \$67.71 million,

respectively. It should be noted that the Patriots ranked 10th in the league for total team salary and the Panthers 24th. The Patriots and Denver Broncos were the only two clubs ranked in the top 10 for salaries that made the playoffs.

The point of the salary cap is teams can realistically compete on an even playing field. The NFL also proves money doesn't necessarily clinch a championship. The Panthers, who had the seventh-lowest payroll of any team in the NFL, found themselves in the Super Bowl. Teams get there because of a determination to win, like the Patriots and Panthers, and not because its players are paid so heavily.

Major League Baseball holds eight spots for the playoffs, four teams from each league. Of the eight teams that made the playoffs last year – Boston, New York, Minnesota, Oakland, San Francisco, Florida, Atlanta, and Chicago – only three were in the top eight in salary. New York, Atlanta and Boston were first, third and sixth, respectively. The World Series Champion Florida Marlins were the lowest paid team in baseball at \$49.05 million and were ranked 25th out of 30 teams. The Yankees' \$152.7 million wasn't enough to beat a team that made less than a third of their salary.

This goes to prove that money doesn't necessarily clinch a World Series. I do believe, however, that this year is an exception to that rule. If the Yankees don't win the World Series this year, then it will be one of the biggest disappointments in baseball history. With pitching being the only thing from making this team perfect, more than 200 home runs should help make this team as lethal as any from the batter's box.

A salary cap would help create a more balanced league, as well. Forty percent of the league's teams had a winning percentage below .500 last year, which was up from 53 percent in 2002. But the problem is the same teams are finishing in the bottom of the barrel year after year. The Detroit Tigers, Tampa

Bay Devil Rays, and Baltimore Orioles continue to fail to make an impact every season. The Devil Rays spent \$19 million last season, more than \$20 million less than the 29th-ranked Kansas City Royals. The Devil Rays don't spend the money because they play in a division that saw the Red Sox and Yankees spend a combined \$251 million dollars in 2003. With a salary cap, the Devil Rays couldn't be outspent unless they chose to be.

Alex Rodriguez is the example for a salary cap in baseball because he is the highest paid player. A-Rod is rich in talent alone and now plays on a team already enriched with some of the best talent in baseball. The Yankees are a dynasty because they have a lavishly rich owner who isn't afraid to spend money to win. Since 1996 the Yankees have won four World Series and have appeared in six of them. They haven't missed the playoffs since 1993. Some might argue that they are successful because they are a team first; they continue to have the same core guys year after year and veteran leadership helps. I would agree to this point in principle, but they keep the same core guys such as Williams and Jeter because they pay them to stay. Some teams don't keep their valuable players because they don't want to spend the money to keep them, or they can't afford to keep them. The Yankees not only keep these valuable players, but bring in players like Giambi, Sheffield and Rodriguez to make the team that much better.

When a team can monopolize a league's players like the Yankees do, teams with smaller wallets can't compensate and remain dormant. The league needs a salary cap and without one will continue to be dominated by the same teams every single year. If that is what Commissioner Bud Selig wants, then he should contract the league to ten teams. At least then people will understand why the same teams win year after year.

Contact G.M. Faretra at gfaretra@smcvt.edu

COLUMNS

Nothing wrong with home schooling

Generalizations are usually incorrect or unfair, and one in particular is the opinion some people hold on home schooling. Recently I read a column in The Defender that portrayed home-schoolers as socially underdeveloped, naïve, and sheltered. I have to disagree with that statement, and I feel that I have the authority to do so since I have experienced both public schooling and home schooling.

I started my education in a local public school when I was 5, and like most children did all the normal things that elementary school kids do. Everything was pretty much fine until middle school began, because somewhere around sixth grade I began having some health problems. At the end of seventh grade, because of how sick I was, my parents and I made the decision to try home schooling. At first I was skeptical, but I decided to give it a chance. Starting out, I promised myself that I would not become like all those other "weird home-schoolers." My mom and I ordered the curriculum and I began that fall.

It was a big change from the public school environment, but a lot of the difference was the amount of work I had to do. I was given the same subjects that I had in public school, but I had to finish whole textbooks. The pace was accelerated compared to public school, and even though my parents acted as my teachers, I had to take responsibility for my learning and motivate myself.

After a lot of hard work, I successfully completed eighth grade, and my health was much better. At that point I made the decision to stay in home schooling. I ended up being home-schooled for two more years, and throughout those years I learned a lot, both about academic subjects and about life. At the end of my sophomore year I decided to go back to public school,

mainly because I wanted to graduate with my class in a regular ceremony and so I could get more involved in activities I was unable to participate in while being home-schooled. Although I had been in the school's drama team during home-schooling, as well as involved in my church, a youth group and a teen choir, I wanted to be able to do more. I started back at public school junior year, I graduated last June, and now here I am.

At first, college seemed overwhelming, as I'm sure it did to pretty much every first-year student, but I adjusted and now I love it. I feel that I am on the same level as my classmates, but in some ways I am more mature. For instance, my level of self-motivation tends to be higher than some of my classmates at times. I don't feel that my home-schooling years hindered my life at all, and actually I believe they helped me. Because of home-schooling, I am much closer to my parents, and I am much more responsible, disciplined and confident with who I am. I wouldn't change those three years.

During the time I was home-schooled I was also able to meet a lot of other home-schoolers; they had many different personalities. Some of them were really sheltered and shy, but the majority was just the opposite. Plenty of people I know who have been home-schooled their whole lives are extremely sociable people, make friends easily, and are as in touch with reality as the next person. My experience is that both forms of education can work equally well. To those who hold unfair views of home schooling, I would ask: Who has the right to judge without having experienced both?

Contact Suzanne Tetreault at stetreault@smcvt.edu

GUEST COLUMNIST



Suzanne Tetreault

AIDS: Affecting the Third World

As a Catholic school founded by European missionaries in New England 100 years ago, St. Michael's takes the commitment of offering its students a study abroad experience during their college years very seriously.

St. Michael's students have been participating in exchange programs to poor and undeveloped countries around the globe in the past. Some of these countries are Ghana and Tanzania in Africa, India and Vietnam in Asia, and Ecuador in South America. The big question people usually ask these students when they return is: How has this international experience changed the way you see America? What kind of implicit experience is expected to be offered by a study abroad program in a poor African country to white, upper middle class, American students? Given the harsh economic and social reality most of the world's countries are facing nowadays, why it is so important that Americans look abroad?

This past September, the latest trade round at the World Trade Organization took place in Cancun, Mexico, known as the "Cancun Round." Trade representatives of 146 countries, including the United States, met to advance trade talks about the Doha Development Agenda, a treaty that resulted from a previous WTO meeting held in the Qatari capital, Doha, in September 2001. The Doha Development Agenda represented a commitment assumed by developed countries to implement a gradual abolition of all forms of export subsidies, and substantial reductions in trade distorting domestic support policies, to benefit developing countries. Due to the refusal of the United States and the European Union to negotiate such agricultural reform issues in Cancun, the Global Trade Talk broke down with an apparent ideological confrontation between North (rich) and South (poor) countries.

The Third World, represented by 21 developing countries led by Brazil, India and China (G-21), refused to negotiate. The commercial topics that North countries were willing to discuss at Cancun were all related to the opening of developing countries' economies to multinational corporation competition. Such an agenda, known as the "Singapore issues," covers topics including Investment, Competition Policy, Transparency in Government Procurement and Trade Facilitation. Both sides went back home with empty hands, although the opposition of the G-21 to rich countries' interests has been considered a significant shift of attitude putting emphasis on their claim for international fair trade. The creation of the G-21 symbolized the frustration of developing countries with the insistence of the industrialized world to demand new trade talks

in such delicate matters as the "Singapore issues" without making concessions in the area which the Third World has most to offer: agricultural products.

As a student in a political science class, Politics of the Global AIDS Pandemic, I studied how AIDS appeared to emerge in the early '80s as a "gay and drug users" disease in developed countries to have become a catastrophic pandemic, with biblical virulence, in developing countries – especially in sub-Saharan Africa in the last few years. The numbers provided by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS reveal the terror themselves: 26.6 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are HIV positive – 70 percent of

the world total amount of infected population; 3.2 million people became infected during the past year; AIDS killed approximately 2.3 million people in sub-Saharan Africa in 2003; more than 13 million Africans have already died of AIDS; 10 million are expected to die within 5 years from such pandemic.

AIDS victims in Africa have mostly been women and children from 15 to 49 years old. In Botswana, for example, 36 percent of the adult population is already infected. AIDS victims in Africa are dying generally without access to doctors, clinics, medicines and food. In most African countries, AIDS has spread with the stigma of a contagious plague. Infected people are socially discriminated against when their disease is disclosed. Due to the strata of population the pandemic is killing most in Africa, people killed by AIDS are not only leaving behind millions of orphans but also depriving their families of adult labor. Additionally, most African nations lack health care systems and social insurance. Thus, parents rely on children for financial support in their later years. This social structure has been seriously affected by AIDS in Africa. The economies of these countries are bleeding with the losses of whole generations of young professionals. The World Bank estimates that AIDS could shrink some African economies by up to 25 percent over the next 15 years. African nations are suffering from this mortal plague due to the cruel connection of significant amounts of different social and economic problems.

However, the existing lack of infrastructure and economic resources in those countries is not the only explanation for such a disaster. Since the early '90s the international community knew that the suffering of HIV/AIDS patients, and the massive spread of HIV disease, can be significantly reduced by adoption of sophisticated antiretroviral drug treatment. The use of this drug "cocktail" has driven the HIV/AIDS epidemic of the early '90s in the United States to a relatively con-

trolled public health problem today. Through this treatment, AIDS patients nowadays can have much better lives, reducing their suffering and extending their life expectancy. The hope of treatment also stimulated HIV/AIDS patients to use preventive measures, reducing the spread of HIV in countries where infected people had access to such drugs.

The ultimate difference between American and African AIDS patients is quite simple: Americans can afford paying the costs for treatment at around \$10,000 to \$15,000 per year; Africans, obviously, cannot. The pharmaceutical industry of developed countries refused to reduce its astronomical prices for anti-retroviral drug cocktails in markets of developing countries during the early '90s, arguing high production costs. However, this argument has been proven false. In 1996, Brazil, in a memorable shift of its policy toward protection of national interests against the lobby of multinational pharmaceutical companies, started considering the AIDS epidemic a threat to its public health system. Due to the refusal of multinational pharmaceuticals to reduce their drug cocktail prices, the Brazilian government enacted a federal law not recognizing intellectual property rights over any kind of goods already commercialized in the world by May 1997. Under this legal provision, the Brazilian government initiated production of such drugs by itself and/or through national generic supplier companies. Brazil was able to produce these drugs, lowering the price of treatment by many thousands of dollars to up to \$700 per year due to one main reason: In accordance with Brazilian law, Brazil was not paying royalties to the pharmaceutical companies.

As a result of this policy, prices of those drugs that started to compete with generics from Brazilian labs dropped 79 percent from 1996 to 2000. Since then prices have been decreasing even more due to the rise of the scale of economies of the generic drugs industry in Brazil and India. Since 1997 every Brazilian AIDS patient gets the same drug cocktail offered to Americans free of charge. The main attitude shift of the Brazilian government against multinational pharmaceuticals companies from developed countries was to address the AIDS epidemic as a national public health threat. Therefore, establishing public health care as a basic human right, the Brazilian government argued, must be favored over the greedy economic interests of pharmaceutical companies who base their argument on "absolute" intellectual property rights.

One may question what links Americans with the ongoing global trade talks under the WTO, the AIDS pandemic in Africa, and the successful Brazilian AIDS public health policy. How can all these matters have any kind of connection between them?

See next week's Defender for answers to this question.

Do you like to write?

Do you have an opinion that you want read?

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You can also call The Defender at Ext. 2421

SPORTS

Schimoler provides bright future for men's lacrosse

Former Cornell All-American goalie is first full-time coach in program history

By Matthew Lyons
Staff Writer

With the hiring of Paul Schimoler last summer, the St. Michael's men's lacrosse team marked the beginning of a new era. For the first time in their 21-year history, the Purple Knights have a full-time coach.

"I have been given the chance to really sink my teeth into this program as a full-time lacrosse coach while instilling my personality and expertise," Schimoler said.

Schimoler comes with a long list of impressive credentials. A four-time All-Ivy and All-American goalkeeper at Cornell University, Schimoler earned several school and NCAA honors, including Ivy League Rookie of the Year in 1986. As a sophomore, he helped the Cornell Big Red win an Ivy League Championship.

As a senior, Schimoler earned Ivy League Player of the Year honors and was named to the North-South All-Star team. He also holds the record for most saves in an NCAA Tournament with 85 in 1988, as Cornell finished as the NCAA Division I runner-up. Following graduation in 1989, he became a member of the 1990 and 1994 gold-winning World Teams.

In 1999, Schimoler was inducted into the Cornell Athletics Hall of Fame. Then, in 2001, he was drafted by the Boston Cannons of Major League Lacrosse. Schimoler added to his list of accomplish-

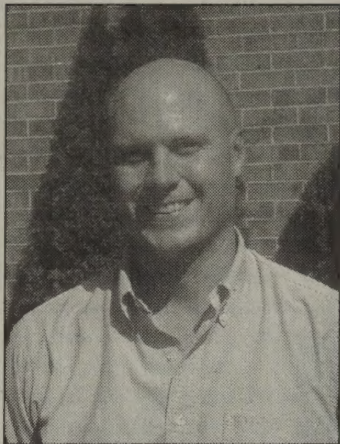


Photo courtesy of Sports Information
Schimoler previously was an assistant coach at Cornell and RPI.

ments this year when he was inducted into the Long Island Metropolitan Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

Aside from playing post-collegiate lacrosse, he has instructed numerous lacrosse camps nationwide, has been a guest speaker at clinics, and helped develop a goaltending video, "Peak Performance," in 1992.

Schimoler previously served as an assistant coach for six years. From 1992 to 1994, he was an assistant at his alma mater. The other part of those six years came with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he helped lead the team to a national ranking in 2003.

Schimoler has lived in Vermont for the past seven years. When given the opportunity to relocate within the state and become part of the St. Michael's lacrosse program, Schimoler was more than willing.

"The timing worked out

great, and I look forward to the years to come," Schimoler said.

Although Schimoler is known mainly as a goaltender, he has experience at all positions. His knowledge comes from his days before and after college, when he played all over the field. This experience as a player puts him and his squads at an advantage because he is able to contribute to all areas of the team.

"I consider myself a really thorough teacher and trainer," he said. "I'm pretty analytical. I like to look at the cause and effect of a lot of things. Coaching lacrosse allows you to coach both offense and defense simultaneously. It is such a free-flowing and unique game."

Looking to the future, Schimoler said he hopes to improve the program. Although he is realistic, Schimoler said the program needs to be forward thinking. Despite having three different coaches in as many years, Schimoler sees plenty of potential within the program.

"My goal is to take this program that has been successful in spite of a lot of challenges and take it to a new level over the next few years," he said. "There are a lot of pluses to the equation here at St. Michael's: a nice school, good academics, and a great location. There is also a turf field that should be ready by the fall of the 2005 season. All these factors should help this program."

The players have an understanding of Schimoler's credentials and where he can take the

program.

"The biggest thing coach brings to the team is commitment," senior co-captain Barrett Hyde said. "Obviously, his being full-time is one indication of his commitment that our previous coaches did not have. Aside from that, he's well-organized. For example, our practices and lifting schedules have been well planned out. Coach Schimoler is always thinking ahead on every level and is strongly committed to our success."

Other players echoed Hyde's sentiments.

"It's nice to have a coach that comes with more experience than some of the coaches we've had in the past," sophomore James Hart said. "His background speaks for itself. Coming from a great college program, as well as other great organizations during his post-collegiate career, Coach Schimoler has the necessary experience to raise the bar

for this program."

The team has been practicing hard over the past weeks and scrimmaged Division III powerhouse Middlebury College on Feb. 29. Schimoler sees Middlebury as a good example of what he hopes to do at St. Michael's.

"Middlebury is a great example of a program that was a very middle-of-the-road program 15 years ago, and in a fairly short time became a premier program," he said. "My goal when I booked the game was to establish a relationship whereby we can benefit from getting a test to see where we need to improve."

The team opens its regular season on March 17 against Dowling College at Oakdale, N.Y.

Men's lacrosse since 1994

Year	Record	Head Coach
1994	5-7	Kyle Hopkins
1995	6-5	Kyle Hopkins
1996	7-5	Chris Sawyer
1997	8-6	Chris Sawyer
1998	6-9	John Hayden
1999	6-8	John Hayden
2000	6-8	John Hayden
2001	7-8	John Hayden
2002	10-5	Tom West
2003	9-5	Michael Schaefer

Sports photo of the week

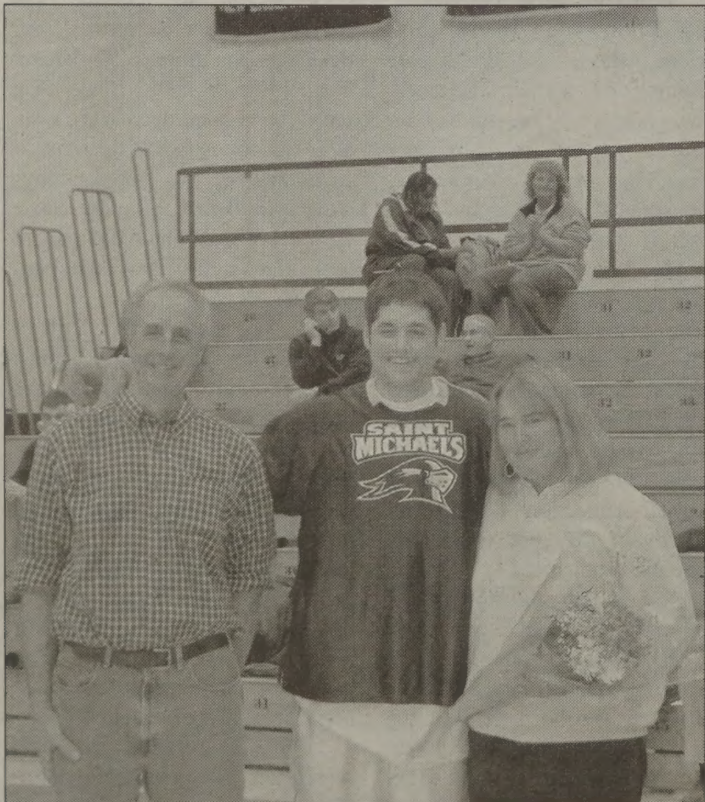


Photo courtesy of Sports Information

Senior Ben Smith is honored with his parents, Jonathan and Cindy, in a ceremony before the Feb. 21 game against St. Anselm. Smith had a career-high 23 points and scored his 1,000th career collegiate point in his final home contest for the Purple Knights.

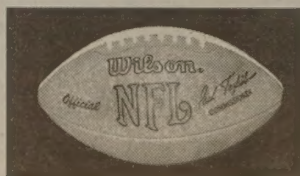
Sports Quote of the Week

"It was pretty easy. We are going to be a good team for a long time. And that was the whole determining factor for me. The whole reason I play this game is to win, and I think we are going to do that here for a while."

-Chicago Cubs pitcher **Kerry Wood** after agreeing to a \$32.5 million, three-year contract extension with the team on Feb. 27. The deal is the most lucrative for a pitcher in Cubs history. In 2003, Wood went 14-11 with a 3.20 ERA and led Major League Baseball with 266 strikeouts. He also helped the Cubs reach the National League Championship Series, where they lost in seven games to the eventual World Series Champion Florida Marlins.

Sports Trivia Question of the Week Answer

Four players have been selected with the first overall pick in the NFL Draft by the New England Patriots since the NFL/AFL merger in 1967. Stanford quarterback Jim Plunkett in 1971, Texas defensive tackle Kenneth Sims in 1982, Nebraska wide receiver Irving Fryar in 1984, and Washington State quarterback Drew Bledsoe in 1993.



SPORTS

Weekly Highlights

Men's basketball lost, 93-77, to St. Anselm on Feb. 21. Senior Ben Smith became the 35th player in school history to score 1,000 career points. Smith turned in a team-high 23 points and pulled down a game-high 10 rebounds. Senior Delbert Randall contributed 15 points and eight rebounds, helping earn him recognition on the Northeast-10 Weekly Honor Roll. Sophomore BJ Robertson also reached double figures with 10 points. The team lost at Pace on Feb. 24, 84-69, to end the season on a three-game losing streak. Randall closed his collegiate career with 13 points, 11 rebounds and three blocked shots, giving Randall his fourth double-double of the season. First-year Brendan Mullins and Robertson scored 10 points each.

Women's basketball lost to St. Anselm, 66-61, on Feb. 21. Senior Erica Kensey had 25 points, nine rebounds and five steals, which helped her become Northeast-10 Player of the Week. Senior Lindsey Bradt scored 14 points while dishing off seven assists and grabbing seven rebounds. Sophomore Brigid Hegarty scored nine points and had seven assists. The team won at Pace, 57-54, on Feb. 24 to end the regular season winning three of the last four games. First-year Dani Rayner led with 16 points, eight rebounds and five assists. Bradt had a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. The 11th-seeded team fell in the first round of the NE-10 playoffs to No. 6 Assumption, 71-61, on Feb. 29. Hegarty scored a team-high 21 points and had four steals. First-year Jevy Rayner scored 20 points and grabbed six rebounds. Kensey also reached double-figures with 10 points. The team finished the season tied for the second-best record in the last 10 years, at 11-16 (7-15 NE-10).

Men's hockey lost at Williams, 6-1, on Feb. 21. Senior Mike Duffy scored for St. Michael's on assists by senior Justin Quenneville and sophomore Alex

Watts. First-year Erik Smith made 43 saves in goal. The team ended a six-game losing streak in a win at Franklin Pierce, 14-2, on Feb. 25. The 14 goals are the most for St. Michael's since scoring a school-record 19 against Nichols on Nov. 27, 1999. Duffy's hat trick helped earn him recognition on the Northeast-10 Weekly Honor Roll. Quenneville scored six points with a goal and five assists, helping him earn Northeast-10 Player of the Week honors. Watts added two goals and three assists to earn him a spot on the Northeast-10 Weekly Honor Roll. Junior Chris Zimmermann scored two goals and had two assists. Ten other players had points in the game. Smith, first-year Derek Jackson, and junior Andy Joy combined to turn aside 35 shots.

Women's hockey won at Salve Regina, 8-1, on Feb. 21 to end a four-game losing streak. Junior Meg Lyons scored two goals and had three assists, helping her to become ECAC East Co-Player of the Week. First-year Martha Salois and junior Danielle Hicks had a goal and two assists each. Sophomore Michelle Miaskiewicz and first-years Melissa Gagne and Ashley McGrath each had multi-point games. Junior Marcy Ring made 20 saves in goal. The team lost to Salve Regina, 3-2, on Feb. 22. Lyons and first-year Katie Grable had goals for St. Michael's. Sophomore Erin Gilmore stopped 28 shots. Lyons finished the season with 29 points, setting a record for the 4-year-old program. She also tied the record for most goals in a season with 17. The team established new records for goals, assists, points and power-play goals this season.

Skiing finished ninth out of 19 teams with 487 points at the EISA Championships, held at Middlebury Feb. 27-28. The team finished in ninth place for the sixth time this season. First-year Randall Bloom came in 10th overall in the slalom for the highest St. Michael's placement in any race this season. Junior

Janine Flahive had the top finish in the women's slalom (34th) while first-year Tina Nardi had the best finish in the women's giant slalom (35th). Sophomore Chris Cronin came in 29th for the highest finish in the men's slalom. On the Nordic side, sophomore Lionel Welch came in 37th in the 10K, followed by senior Mike Payne in 43rd. Payne was also the highest finisher in the men's 15K, coming in 30th. Sophomore Emily Heffernan had the highest finish in both the 5K and 10K for the St. Michael's women, placing 53rd and 50th, respectively.

Swimming competed at the New England Division II and III Championships Feb. 20-22 at Bentley College in Waltham, Mass. The St. Michael's women came in fifth out of 21 teams with 469 points. The women performed well in several relay events: fourth in the 800-yard freestyle and fifth in both the 200-yard freestyle and 200-yard medley relays. Sophomore Ellie Hedden turned in a third-place finish in the 50-yard butterfly and came in sixth in the 1,650-yard freestyle. Junior Katie Mazurek placed in the top five in both the 50-yard freestyle and 100-yard backstroke. Junior Eliza Delaney came in fifth in the 100-yard individual medley. First-year Laura Mann turned in a fifth-place finish in the 50-yard breaststroke, and came in sixth in the 100-yard breaststroke. The men's team placed seventh out of 13 schools with 158 points. Senior Logan St. Peter won the 50-yard breaststroke in 28:44 seconds. He also turned in a third-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke and came in fourth in the 200-yard breaststroke. Senior Adam Forrest finished in third place in the 1-meter dive, helping him earn the Northeast-10 Male Diver of the Year Award. First-year Peter Schmidt's sixth-place finish in the 1-meter dive was the highest by a freshman at the meet. He earned the Northeast-10 Diving Freshman of the Week Award for the fifth time this season.



Knight

Writer

Stu Hedstrom

Senior salute

SMC basketball seniors honored before Feb. 21 games against St. Anselm

St. Michael's athletic teams traditionally honor seniors during the final home contests with Senior Day. Senior Day recognizes and celebrates those athletes' accomplishments with a ceremony before the game or meet.

The men's and women's basketball teams had Senior Day together on Saturday, Feb. 21, as each squad squared off against conference rival St. Anselm. The women played first and held a ceremony before the game.

The presentation was very well done, as the four seniors were individually recognized along with their family members — a very nice touch. The family members have played a tremendous role in enabling the seniors to play collegiate basketball, by driving them to youth basketball practice, watching them play in high school, and giving their complete love and support on the court and in school.

The announcer listed the accomplishments of each of the four women's basketball seniors, while the spectators applauded them and their families. The accomplishments included Christine Johnson's role during her three varsity seasons and Katie Balka's four years on varsity.

Captain Lindsey Bradt's 1,600 career collegiate points were another accomplishment, scored during her two years at St. Michael's and during her previous time as an All-American at Hudson Valley Community College in Albany, N.Y. Captain Erica Kensey was introduced last along with a description of her scoring 1,000 points in a Purple Knights uniform.

The academic achievements are another accomplishment of the seniors. Each player had their major named during the ceremony.

The four seniors all started the game, another great gesture to honor them. The day was nearly complete for the women's basketball team. The final score, St. Anselm 66, St. Michael's 61, was the only damper. The seniors and their teammates can, however, take heart in the fact that they would go on to play in the Northeast-10 playoffs.

The men's game completed the Saturday afternoon dou-

bleheader. Like the women, the seniors on the men's team and their families were honored with a pre-game ceremony and tales of their accomplishments wearing the purple and gold.

Captains Delbert Randall and Ben Smith were the only two seniors on the men's basketball team. Randall was recognized for becoming the 34th player in school history to reach the 1,000-point mark, and for his status as one of the top shot-blockers to ever play for St. Michael's. Smith's career as a proficient three-point shooter was noted, along with the fact that he needed only 15 points to join Randall in the 1,000-point club. The two were also honored for their nearly completed work toward degrees in business administration.

In the game, St. Michael's fell behind and ended up losing, 93-77, but Smith inched closer to the 1,000-point mark. His total was at 997 with just over 10 minutes to go in the second half when he put up a three-pointer to put him at an even 1,000. The Crazy Knights and the rest of the crowd roared their approval and watched Smith score a career-high 23 points.

Toward the end of the game, Randall and Smith were each taken out. This enabled the crowd to give them a standing ovation for their four years playing in Ross Sports Center.

After being vital parts of a team that reached the NCAA Division II "Sweet Sixteen" their first year in 2000-01, Randall and Smith experienced some seasons that were not as successful. The two remained constant figures for St. Michael's basketball throughout their careers, excelling even as the wins did not come as frequently as that first year playing college basketball.

So here is a salute to the seniors on the men's and women's basketball teams, and to those on all the other sports teams. A salute to the senior athletes in the spotlight, and to those who play in near obscurity. A salute to those breaking records and earning awards, and to those who languish on the bench, yet work just as hard in practice and do whatever is needed to support their teams.

First-year • Women's Basketball • Westminster, Vt.



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Name: Dani Rayner

Why chosen by The Defender
Scored a game-high 16 points to lead St. Michael's to victory, 57-54, at Pace University on Feb. 24.

High school: Bellow Falls Union

Major: Business

Started playing: In the third grade.

Why SMC: It's a good place for academics, with an honors program. I liked the campus, and it felt like a community to me.

Team strength: Off the court the team is one of the closest I have ever

seen. This pays off on the court.

Favorite SMC memory: Practices, sometimes they are funny, or very intense.

In your free time: Spend time with the team off the court.

Favorite TV show: "Everybody Loves Raymond"

Favorite music: I listen to the radio.

Plans for after graduation: Grad school right after St. Michael's.

SPORTS



Scoreboard

For up-to-date scores,
call the SMC sports hot line
at (802) 654-2SMC

Men's Basketball (8-18, 5-17 NE-10)

2/10
SMC 85,
Southern Connecticut 75
2/18
Le Moyne 78, SMC 63
2/21
St. Anselm 93, SMC 77
2/24
Pace 84, SMC 69

Women's Basketball (11-16, 7-15 NE-10)

2/18
SMC 83, Le Moyne 40
2/21
St. Anselm 66, SMC 61
2/24
SMC 57, Pace 54
2/29
NE-10 Playoffs
No. 6 Assumption 71,
No. 11 SMC 61

Men's Ice Hockey (9-16-0, 4-14-0 ECAC East, 4-1-0 NE-10)

2/20
Middlebury 6, SMC 1
2/21
Williams 6, SMC 1
2/25
SMC 14, Franklin Pierce 2
3/3
NE-10 Semifinals
vs. Stonehill, 7 p.m.
3/6
NE-10 Championships,
if necessary, 3 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey (3-20-1, 2-15-0 ECAC East)

2/14
New England 4, SMC 1
2/15
New England 5, SMC 2
2/21
SMC 8, Salve Regina 1
2/22
Salve Regina 3, SMC 2

Skilling

2/13-14
9th of 12
at Dartmouth Carnival
2/20-21
9th of 11
at Williams Carnival
2/27-28
9th of 19
at Middlebury Carnival
3/10-13
NCAA Championships

Swimming & Diving

2/20-22
New England
Championships
at Bentley College
Women 5th of 21 teams
Men 7th of 13 teams

Illness puts a damper on the Nordic ski season

By Rob Ticho
Staff Writer

The St. Michael's Nordic ski team finished a season full of accomplishments, new experiences and illness on Feb. 27-28 at the Middlebury Carnival.

The men's team started the season with more potential than ever before, said third-year head coach and St. Michael's alumnus Joe Connelly, but that potential soon melted as sickness infiltrated the team. "Basically everyone has been sick. We usually couldn't even put out a full team," Connelly said.

With a short season of six weeks, sickness can have a dramatic impact on a team's performance, Connelly said. Sophomore Lionel Welch, who has just recovered from sickness himself, explained that skiing 10 kilometers while sick made the races especially difficult.

The men accomplished many feats despite illness. The squad made school history when it placed four skiers- (senior Mike Payne, Welch, junior Spencer Powlison, and first-year Dan Tumenas) -in the top 40 at the Dartmouth Carnival on Feb. 13-14. The team also finished eighth out of 11 teams in the 10K, ahead of Colby, Bowdoin and Harvard, at the Williams Carnival Feb. 20-21.

One notable performance is Powlison's improvement by 11 spots since in the 10K since the beginning of the season; he placed 43rd at the Williams Carnival compared to 54th at the opening race at Colby on Jan. 23-



Photo by Paul Dubois

Senior Mike Payne follows junior Spencer Powlison at the Dartmouth Carnival, held on Feb. 13-14. Payne and Powlison helped St. Michael's to a 10th-place finish in the men's 10K race and ninth place in the 20K.

24. Payne's finish in 22nd place in the 10K at the UVM Carnival Feb. 6-7 was the team's best individual result since 1999.

The women's team saw much improvement this season, first-year Josie Woodward said. The team is young, comprised of six sophomores and one first-year student. Three of the sophomores began skiing for the first time this year.

"The new skiers are really improving," Woodward said. "We've all worked really hard."

Woodward came to St. Michael's because she knew she would have the opportunity to ski. Growing up in Maine, she began skiing at the age of 2 and competed throughout high

school. She enjoyed her first year of competing for St. Michael's even though collegiate competition was harder than she expected.

"I love being on the team," Woodward said. "We hang out all the time and get along really well."

After comparing video footage of the new skiers from the beginning of the season, Connelly noticed a major improvement, which he attributes to their great effort. Sophomore Emily Heffernan, in particular, made great strides in improving her technique, Connelly said.

The women, who placed in or close to last place all season, will have many more chances to

prove themselves as the skiers gain experience in the future.

Connelly's strategy for the future is to keep the men's team skiing solidly. This will be a difficult task as Payne and senior Nathan Laber will soon graduate. Payne and Laber were team leaders whose enthusiasm was a great asset to the team, Connelly said. Connelly would like to see the men place in the middle of the 11-school Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association.

For the women, Connelly will keep training and developing them over the summer.

2004 ski schedule and results

Date	Carnival	Results
1/23-24	Colby	9th/11
1/30-31	St. Lawrence	9th/13
2/6-7	UVM	9th/13
2/13-14	Dartmouth	9th/12
2/20-21	Williams	9th/11
2/27-28	Middlebury	9th/19
3/10-13	NCAAs	TBA

Note: Results are for Nordic and alpine combined scores



Photo courtesy of Sports Information

Sophomore Jaime Deacon races toward the finish line in women's Nordic action. Deacon is part of a very young team, comprised of six sophomores and one first-year.

Sports Trivia Question of the Week

Since the NFL/AFL merger in 1967, how many players have been selected by the New England Patriots with the first overall pick in the NFL Draft?

see answer on page 14